

AN
ESSAY
ON THE
GENERAL METHOD

Of treating

CANCEROUS TUMORS.

In which the Opinions of some of the most celebrated Authors, who have writ on this Subject, are examined, and compared.

The Whole endeavouring to shew what Stages of that formidable Disease are curable.

Illustrated with several extraordinary Cases.

By *WILLIAM NORFORD*,
Surgeon and Mar.-Midwife. *K*

Et sanè operam nostram nullum æquius postulat argumentum, quàm ut morbis istis quàm certissimum remedium excogitemus, qui cum in hominibus gravissimos dolores excitant, tum in nobis etiam, qui humanitati pariter & medicinæ studemus, non vehemens minùs, curandi studium excitare debent.

Friend in Præfat. Emmenolog.

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MDCC LIII.

AN
ATLAS
OF THE
DENTAL METHOD

OF DENTISTRY

CANCEROUS TUMORS

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.



Yours faithfully,
J. E. Smith
Secretary

T O
Mr. John Freke,

Senior S U R G E O N

T O

St. *Bartholomew's* Hospital,

A N D

Fellow of the Royal Society.

S I R,

BETTER than a
Year is now elapsed
since I took the Li-
berty of begging the Fa-
vour of You to give me
an Account of your Suc-
cess in treating cancerous

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Tumors, particularly in
 regard to the Extirpation
 of them. You were then
 pleased to return me an
 Answer, ' That You had
 ' had the good Fortune
 ' of curing many in your
 ' Life, but most by Am-
 ' putation ; how many
 ' You could not tell, hav-
 ' ing never kept a History
 ' of them'. At the same
 Time, I gave You a sum-
 mary View of my Thoughts
 on the ensuing Subject ;
 when You were so far from
 discouraging my Under-
 taking,

taking, that, on the contrary, You positively bid me not be deterr'd by any Thing You had said, from the noble Purpose of attempting all in my Power for the Advancement of so useful a Profession as is that of *Surgery*. This, I presume, You said (as wise Men are wont to do) rather to encourage the Honesty of my Intention to do good, how little and inconsiderable soever, than that You thought me capable of advancing any Thing

Thing new and extraordinary on the Subject. I ascribe no Merit to myself from the succeeding Performance; if there be any due, 'tis undoubtedly owing to You, and the other celebrated Authors, who have abundantly supplied me with Materials to illustrate my Design. But my Obligation to You is the greater, as what I have selected from Your ingenious *Essay* (on the *Art* of *Healing*, &c. for that Purpose) was by your Leave.

When

When I came, therefore, to a Determination of publishing the ensuing Treatise, I did not in the least hesitate to whom I should dedicate it. For to whom could I better have Recourse, as a Person every Way qualified to patronize a Work of this Nature (if so trifling an Essay may be called so) than to a Gentleman whose Knowledge is evidently so extensive in the Science he professes?

All I shall further add, is, that I heartily wish You
Length

[viii]

Length of Days still to improve the most noble *Art* of *Healing*, both for the Good of the present and succeeding Ages.

I hope You will accept of this sincere Mark of my Esteem, and believe me to be really,

S I R,

Your most obedient, and

Most obliged

Humble Servant,

Halesworth,
Dec. 27, 1752.

W. NORFORD.

T H E

P R E F A C E.

IT may, perhaps, be thought Arrogance and Presumption in me (as a Country Surgeon) to attempt the delivering my Thoughts on a Disease, which has, hitherto, employ'd the Heads of Men of the most consummate Learning and Experience, to investigate the true Cause and Cure of it: But so difficult is the Task, that notwithstanding all their Endeavours, it still remains the *Opprobrium Medicorum & Chirurgorum*. — But I hope the candid Reader will suspend any rash Judgment of me, 'till he hears the Motives that induced me first to write

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on this Disease. Several Years ago, (at my first coming into Practice) some Patients afflicted with *Cancers*, offer'd themselves to my Care; and as this is so rebellious a Distemper, not, like some others, to be conquered, except under a Method adapted, with the greatest Propriety, to the peculiar Nature of it, I was particularly cautious how I treated them: As it is absolutely necessary, in such Cases, to bear in Mind the ancient Adage of *Hippocrates*, viz. *Oportet Medicum tentare duo, vel prodesse, vel saltem non nocere*. I had often observed, that Surgeons in Consultations in cancerous Cases, frequently differ'd greatly in their Sentiments about treating them; each quoting, perhaps, his favourite Author in support of his Opinion; so that, sometimes, the unhappy Patient has had the Operation perform'd under such Circumstances, that it was almost impossible it should succeed; at other Times, in my humble Opinion,

pinion, I have seen the Patient abandoned, and left, as it were, to the Fury of the Disease, when, I have had great Reason to think, the Operation might have been successfully employ'd.

The Consideration of these Things, naturally led me to search into the Authors of the greatest Note, (that I was acquainted with, who had wrote on this Subject,) to discover, if possible, by a Comparison of their Opinions, such Rules, whereby I might be guided in my Practice, so as not to err greatly on either Side; not rashly to advise the Operation where there was no Hopes of succeeding by it, or when other Means might have been more useful; on the other Hand, not to leave the Patient to the hard Fate of the Disease, when there was a Prospect of its being beneficial and salutary. This Step was attended with much Trouble,

not to say Expence; and I was still greatly at a Loss how to act for the best in this terrible Disease.—

Authors, who, according to the Report of the World, were of equal Abilities and Authority, varied greatly in their Opinions, as to the Treatment of it, &c. so that I did not well know whose Opinion most to rely upon. — However, by a strict Observation in my Practice, always endeavouring carefully to separate the real Symptoms of the Disease from those caused by the Medicines I had prescribed: I thought, at length, I was able to discover by what Means some Medicines were so prejudicial in this Distemper, which Reason, at first, suggested might be useful; and likewise, by what Means a Medicine that was disagreeable in one Stage of the Disorder, might, nevertheless, be very beneficial in another. — These Remarks I carefully register'd, and, at my leisure Hours, compared them with

with those of the most celebrated Authors. By Degrees, what with my own Experience, and the Knowledge I gain'd from repeated Perusals of the best Books, I at length established some Rules, by which, I think, we may be enabled to cure, with a Degree of Certainty, some Stages of this Disorder.

Good Success in Matters of Difficulty, too frequently gives us a Tincture of Vanity; and, I must confess, I was not a little pleased in having cured two or three Patients of this Disease. For as the peculiar Nature of the Distemper was such, as seldom to be cured by mere Goodness of Constitution; and, as both physical and chirurgical Means were necessary to complete a Cure, I thought I could not be deceived in the Effects of these, more especially in the latter: For, as *Celsus* has long ago observed, ' The Effects of Surgery are more manifest

' than the other Branches of Physic ;
 ' since in Diseases, Nature or Chance
 ' may do much, and the same Me-
 ' dicines have sometimes proved salu-
 ' tary, and sometimes had no Effect
 ' at all, so that it is a Matter of Doubt,
 ' whether Health is occasioned by the
 ' Medicines that have been admi-
 ' nistred, or by the good natural
 ' Constitution of the Body ; but in
 ' Distempers that are cured by the
 ' Assistance of the Surgeon's Hand,
 ' it is plain from whence the salutary
 ' Effect proceeds'. *

How-

* *Lib. vii. præf. ' Ea non quidem Medica-*
 ' *menta atque victus rationem omittit ; sed manu*
 ' *tamen plurimum præstat, estque ejus effectus inter*
 ' *omnes medicinæ partes evidentissimus. Si qui-*
 ' *dem in morbis cum multum fortuna conferat,*
 ' *eademque sæpe salutaria, sæpe vana sint ; potest*
 ' *dubitari, secunda valentudo medicinæ, an*
 ' *corporis beneficio contigerit. In his quoque, in*
 ' *quibus medicamentis maxime utimur, quamvis*
 ' *profectus evidentior est, tamen sanitatem & per*
 ' *hæc frustra quæri, & sine his reddi sæpe,*
 ' *manifestum est. Sicut in oculis quoque depre-*
 ' *hendi*

However, as I was doubtful whether these People would remain long without a Relapse, (according to the Opinion of most chirurgical Writers,) I was not very hasty in communicating my Sentiments concerning this Disease, or, indeed, saying to any one that I had ever such Patients: For, as I had advised some of them to the Extirpation of the Tumors, and a pretty severe Course of Physic after the Operation, I very well knew, that if any of them had relapsed, and the Method by which I had treated them, should have come to the Ears of those who have always opposed and censured me, undeservedly, that they would not have

*‘ hendi potest; qui a medicis diu vexati, sine his
 ‘ interdum sanescunt. At in ea parte, quæ manu
 ‘ curat, evidens est, omnem profectum, ut aliquid
 ‘ ab aliis adjuvetur, hinc tamen plurimum tra-
 ‘ here’.* Hipp. de Arte v.

been wanting in artfully insinuating to the World, that the Step I had taken with these People was extremely improper, and greatly prejudicial to their Healths and Constitutions.— I was very sensible, that such a Course of Physic as I prescribed after Extirpation, was not universally known ever to have been order'd in such Cases; and that, unless I could have convinced the World that I had known it useful from my own reiterated Experience, it would have been to little Purpose to have brought any Book to my Support, tho' the Author was of the greatest Authority; because the major Part of Mankind generally look upon the oldest Man as the ablest Practitioner; and that all the Knowledge which is to be acquired by Reading, to be of little Signification for the Improvement of Surgery. — But whether or no the mere Practitioner is the Person the most to be relied on in extraordinary Cases

Cases in Surgery, &c. has been sufficiently answered by the learned Dr. *Friend*, and other ingenious Authors.

But to return : As my Patients have had the good Luck to continue well, some of them being now living Witnesses of what I have asserted ; I desire it to be thought, that a sincere Willingness to inform others of a Method of Practice I have had great Reason to be satisfied with myself, and what may hereafter be of Use to the young Surgeon, is the real Motive of the Publication of this Essay.—When I first committed my Thoughts to Paper on the ensuing Subject, it was for my own Use ; but, afterwards, on my giving them to be read by the young Gentleman my Apprentice, and some others, who expressed some Satisfaction thereat, I had Thoughts of publishing them, thinking they might be of Service to those of less Experience than myself ; but, I believe, I should not

have prevailed on myself to have done it, had I not been encouraged to it by one who is a good Judge in Matters of this Nature, and justly esteemed one of the most Eminent in the Art of *Surgery*.——I say not this to gain Favour for that which perhaps merits none; or that I desire any worthy Friends should be answerable for my Faults: Such a Request would be vain and ungenerous indeed.——I expect to get little popular Applause by this Undertaking; had my Aim been at so uncertain a Mark, I would have chose a Subject less difficult than the following to have wrote upon.

I own myself but moderately qualified to commence an Author, and pretend to none of the Perfections and Elegancies of fine Language.—I have expressed myself in the most intelligible Manner I am able, having wrote my Thoughts just as they occurred to me,
with-

without studying for such as might appear more pompous and learned.— I hope, therefore, all Faults, as to that Point, will be pardoned by the ingenious and candid Reader; whom I confess, I desire only to please; for as to what any of the honourable Tribe of the *Malevoli* may say against me, I am ready prepared for them; could I gain their Encomiums it would not make me vain, neither shall their Detractions give me the least Uneasiness. Men of the greatest Abilities have not escaped Censure, altho' they have employed their Talents with the utmost Industry for the public Good; much less then must I expect to come clear off, unless my Pretensions to no superior Qualifications may let me escape.—It is now, and always has been (as the learned Dr. *Mead* observes)

‘ the general Temper of Mankind to
 ‘ be excessively lavish of their Re-
 ‘ proofs, but of their Commendations

'extremely parsimonious*.' Surely this unhappy Disposition to censure, arises in the Majority of Mankind, not so much from real Ill-nature, as from a Want of Capacity ; for, certainly, 'tis much easier to find Fault and ridicule, than commend ; a very little Judgment will serve for the former, but for the latter, the best Talents are required to do it properly.

I am well satisfied, 'tis the Fear of those Men of a narrow and ill-disposed Turn of Mind, that deters several ingenious Surgeons from publishing their Observations, whose Multiplicity of Practice will not allow them Time to write so correctly, perhaps, as is generally expected in those Pieces which are to appear in Public ; but, I have always observed, that the learned

* *Ita nimirum fert hominum natura, in aliorum reprehensionibus nimia plerumque & prodiga, in laudationibus vero parca & avara. Præf. ad Menit. & Præcep. Med. p. iv.*

and

and candid Readers are ever the most ready to forgive Faults of that Kind in well-meant Designs; and will, if there be any room for it, rather praise than depreciate the Performance.

The sensible Part of Mankind will not look upon every Country *Surgeon* as an *Ignoramus*; and, I hope, there are few so weak, as to think no Cases can happen out of the Smoke of a City worth the committing to Posterity. 'Tis certain as great a Variety of Cases falls frequently under the Country *Surgeon's* Care, as can come to the City *one's*; except those Gentlemen concerned in the public Hospitals: to whose Labours we are already greatly indebted for several useful Parts of Knowledge.——I know no Difference between the common practical City *Surgeon* and the Country *one*, than that the former can do his Business in less Time, and with less Fatigue than the latter; and therefore,

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consequently, the Citizen has more Time upon his Hands to communicate his Success to the Public (if he pleases) than the Countryman has. And the Truth of what I have here asserted, I know by Experience; having received the Rudiments of my chirurgical Education in a large and populous City; and under a Gentleman of the first Character in full Business.—But whether or no the City *Surgeons* are, in general, endowed with more penetrating *Genius's* than those in the Country, is another Question: and needless to be solved by me; since it has been so well done by a Gentleman lately, in his Preface to a Book intituled, *Practical Cases and Observations in Surgery, &c.* By *Dale Ingram*, Surgeon and Man-midwife.

By this Time the Reader may be desirous of knowing what he is to find in the following Essay: I shall therefore hasten to inform him, that I have
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endeavoured, as far as my present Practice would give me Leave, to set in as clear a Light as I could, the safest Method of treating cancerous Tumors; about which many *Surgeons* are at present much divided in their Opinions: Some advise a Trial of resolving them; others reject such Attempts, and recommend only Palliatives, looking upon all other Methods as unsafe or prejudicial; while others call out solely for Extirpation, wherever the Operation is practicable.—These Methods may, perhaps, have each of them their Use, under proper Restrictions.

The Business of the following Essay is, to enquire at what Time each of these Methods of Cure ought to take place.—Whether I have succeeded at all in the Attempt, the Learned are the best Judges.—I must humbly submit myself to their Judgment, being willing to answer for my Faults,
and

and to retract my Opinion in any Particular, if any one will candidly tell me of my Errors; because, I think, it is of the highest Importance, that every Point, which respects the Healths and Welfare of our Fellow-Creatures, should be duly adjusted.—I care not if every Argument and Method I have mentioned be refuted, provided any other, which Reason and Experience shew better, be established in their Place.—I am not so fond of my own Opinion, or so weak as to endeavour to impose it upon any one: I know every body will reason and judge according to his own Notion of Things; and therefore the Arguments and Proofs which appear convincing to me in the ensuing Essay, may appear too remote and equivocal to others: But as I have made my Theory bend to a safe Method of Practice, I hope I shall be excused: I am content therefore to leave all the conjectural Part of the following Subject

ject upon the Foot of *Inquirenda*. I pretend only, as *Horace* * says, to have performed the Office of a Whetstone, &c. and heartily wish to see this Subject cleared up by an abler Hand; and that we might see this Disease less our Reproach than it is at present, both for the Good of our Patients, and the Honour of the healing Art.

As to the Order of the following Essay, I have begun with considering and comparing the Opinions of several of the most eminent in the Art of *Surgery*, who have wrote on the Subject; remarking, as I proceeded, such Things, as, I thought, occasioned the Success or Failure of each Method of Cure: And these Remarks I have illustrated with Cases, either from my own Practice, or culled from Authors

* — *Fungar vice cotis acutum*
Reddere quæ ferrum valet exsors ipsa secandi.
Art. Poet. Ver. 304.

of the greatest Note. The Cases of my own are faithfully related; and taken from a Diary, which I have kept, of the most remarkable Occurrences in *Surgery*, that have fallen under my Care.

The Essay was wrote near two Years ago, almost in the Form it now appears. I thought then I had treated of several Things not taken Notice of by any other Author; at least in none that I had then seen: But since I find, on a Perusal of the *Commentaries* upon the *Aphorisms* of Dr. Herman Boerhaave, by Gerard Van Swieten, M. D. several Circumstances agreeable to what I had previously observed. I have, therefore, submitted to the Trouble to collect, from the last-mentioned Book, such Things as I imagined would further illustrate the Method I would inculcate. If it be observed, that I have, in some Cases, not treated my Patients, in every Particular, with that
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Propriety or Justness the learned and more experienced might expect, I hope I shall be excused; since I have taken the Resolution, rather to expose my own Weakness, than to conceal my Mistakes, which hereafter might have been a Stumbling-block to the young Practitioner.—But, before I conclude, I can't help acknowledging myself greatly indebted to the ingenious Authors I have quoted; and if, in some Particulars, I have been obliged to differ from them, it is with the greatest Diffidence of myself, and because I can't yield an implicit Faith to the greatest Authorities.

I think from what I have said, no one will be so invidious as to suggest that my Intentions are to instruct Surgeons of the first Character; I have already owned myself greatly indebted to their Labours and Ingenuity; and previously hinted that the following
Trea-

Treatise is designed for the Information of those just coming into Practice; whose Notions are frequently form'd from reading two or three Authors, and those, perhaps, none of the best.—The ensuing Essay then may be said to be a proper Direction to the choice Authors on the Subject; and is a summary View of their different Sentiments; by the Help of which, I have been greatly guided in my Practice.—I hope, therefore, it will not be thought altogether a useless Undertaking to publish my Success: Like a Traveller on his Journey, (if I may be allowed the Simile) who, after having enquired of various People the best Road to the Place whither he was going, and having received different Directions from some of them, he is at last guided by the Majority of their concurring Opinions and his own Reason; and on his meeting the next Stranger, he informs him, not only by whom

whom he was guided, that he may ask (if he pleases) occasionally, but likewise gives such further Directions as he had found most useful to himself.

I shall conclude this preliminary Discourse, with advising the young *Surgeon* well to consider the great and weighty Employment he has entered into; and that however great his Genius and other Accomplishments are, it will nevertheless require his whole Study and Thoughts, to acquit himself as he ought in the Duties of his Profession. For altho' Custom and Time have reconciled some Things to us, which, if duly considered, are shocking to human Nature, yet the Heinousness of a Crime 'when it
' spreads through Numbers, is not so
' properly divided as multiplied: Every one is criminal in proportion
' to the Offence which he commits,
' not

‘ not to the Number of those who
 ‘ are his Companions. Both the
 ‘ Crime and the Penalty lie as heavy
 ‘ upon every Individual of an offend-
 ‘ ing Multitude, as they would upon
 ‘ any single Person, had none shared
 ‘ with him in the Offence.’

I don't know whether this Quota-
 tion will be thought quite applicable
 to the Subject in Hand ; but what I
 mean by it is, that the Number of
 Pretenders to the healing Art is grown
 so great and formidable, that Murders
 and the Loss of Limbs which are daily
 occasioned by these Impostures, are so
 far from shocking us, that we scarce
 regard them more than the natural
 Consequences of Mortality.—A Friend
 is dead, say we, whom I believe might
 have lived longer if he had had proper
 Advice : But God only knows ! People
 die under the Care of the most pru-
 dent *Physicians* and *Surgeons*. Thus
 the

the Perpetrators of these horrid Crimes, escaping the condign Punishments of this World, grow hardened in their Sins, and look upon them as trifling, because the same is daily exercised by one or other of their numerous Sect,



E R R A T A.

PAGE 11. l. 29. *for* it will agree, *read* it will appear.

P. 47. l. 4. *for* Axungia, *read* Axungia.

P. 53. l. 19. place a Comma after the Word *this*, and the Word *first*.

P. 59. l. 7. dele the Semi-colon after the Word *Time*, and place a Colon.

P. 85. l. 18. dele the Semi-colon after the Word *Cancer*, and place a Comma.

P. 90. l. 22, 23. *for* before it does pass through the capillary or hairy Arteries, *read* before it passes through the capillary Arteries.

P. 104. l. 1. *for* those who were, *read* those which were.

P. 109. l. 7. dele the Semi-colon after the Word *Pus*, and place a Colon.

P. 112. l. 24. dele the Semi-colon after the Word *Intervals*, and place a Colon.

P. 120. in N^o 1. *for* were not much larger, *read* were much larger.

P. 132. l. 5. dele the Semi-colon after the Word *Preparations*, and place a full Stop.

P. 146. l. 24. after the Word *Night* place a full stop.

P. 148. l. 4. dele *new* before the Word Instrument.

P. 151. l. 10. place a Comma after the Word Instrument, and after *Ckesfelden*, l. 11. place a Comma after the Word *Tonfils*.

A N
E S S A Y
O N T H E
G E N E R A L M E T H O D
O f t r e a t i n g
C A N C E R O U S T U M O R S .

§ I. **P**ERHAPS there is no Disease, which the human Body is liable to, that deserves more our particular Attention than a *Cancer*.→ The most ingenious, in the physical Art, have employed their utmost Endeavours to find out its Nature and Cure, but hitherto their Attempts have proved abortive ; and, I think, it is now almost universally allowed incurable, except where the Tumor can be entirely extirpated by surgical Operation.

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Not-

Notwithstanding this seems to be the general received Opinion, yet the Credit paid to Authors * of having cured not only *occult*, but even ulcerated *Cancers* without Extirpation, has made several *Surgeons* Advocates for other Methods of Cure; so that some Practitioners are extremely cautious, (without any Regard to the Stage of the Distemper) in advising the Operation, 'till all other Means have failed, lest they should be thought rash. But, if we duly consider every Circumstance, as how few Cases are reported, by Authors, of *Cancers* being cured without Extirpation, especially ulcerated ones, and that the Remedies, which we are told performed these Wonders, having so often failed in the Hands of other Practitioners, (tho' applied exactly according to the Author's Directions) I think, we may without *Scepticism* conclude, that either the Authors were not ingenuous enough to give us the true Medicines which they employed in these Cures, or, that possibly, they might mistake some other Disease for a *Cancer*.

* Amongst these, *vide Marchetti Obser. Medico-Chirurg.* p. 42. Also *Turner's Surgery*, vol. 1. p. 95.

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However, as I would not, willingly, depreciate the Judgment of any Man, but would use every one with the same Candour as I should like to be used with myself, I will suppose, that, even in the worst of Cases, Nature does, sometimes, relieve herself in a Manner absolutely above our Knowledge, and so more may be ascribed to the Virtues of the Medicines than they deserve; therefore, I think, we may now say with the *Latin Hippocrates* *, viz. that no Medicine has been found out yet, to be certainly relied on in the Cure of a *Cancer*. *Helmont* †, indeed, gives us the Story of a certain Man who cured every kind of *Cancer*, by sprinkling on a Powder which gave no Pain, and that he afterwards healed the Part with an incarnative Plaister.—But he adds, that this Art died together with the Person.—Whatever Truth, says the Doctor ††, there may be in these Relations, there is no such Remedy at present known, at least to the best of my Information.

* *Celsus*, Lib. v. cap. xxviii. §. 2.

† *In Capitulo de Ideis morbofis.* Num. 38. p. 437.
From *Geradi van Swieten*, M. D. *Comment. in Herm. Boerhaave Aphorismos.* Tom. 1st. p. 885. 3d Edit.

†† *Van Swieten.*

§ 2. As no Unguent, Powder, or such like external Applications, have yet been proved, with any Certainty, to radically cure an ulcerated *Cancer*, I think, we may altogether exclude that Supposition, and reduce the Methods of Cure to the three following Heads, *viz.* First—that by Resolution : Secondly—that by Palliation : And, thirdly—that by Extirpation.

Altho' the palliative Method, I think, hardly deserves the Name of a Cure ; because 'tis no more than relieving the Urgency of the Symptoms, and making the Patient tolerably easy under his Complaints, without removing the Cause : The other two Methods are said, sometimes, to prove absolute Cures.

'Tis not necessary to my intended Purpose, to give a regular History of this Disease ; *Wiseman*, *Heister*, and several other eminent Writers on the Art of *Surgery*, have so well described it, that there is little room left on that Head, but to transcribe from them ; which would, in general, be as disagreeable to the Reader, as it is injudicious in the Writer.—I shall, therefore, only take notice of such Particulars as are necessary to illustrate the Method I would inculcate, and will refer those,

those, who want a farther Description of this Disease, to the Authors I have quoted.

§ 3. 'Though we have had many Cures by Extirpation, yet the Propriety of this Method is disputed by some *Surgeons* of the greatest Note; who think, the unhappy Patient ought rather to be contented with the most approved palliative Method, when the Tumor cannot be resolved, than to have the radical Cure attempted by the Operation.—Their Reasons for this Opinion are said to be founded on the Observation, that very few of those who have consented to the Operation, have remained long without a Return of the Disorder, either upon the Part where the former Tumor had been taken off, or pretty near the Neighbourhood of it, and sometimes on other remote Parts of the Body.

§ 4. The Truth of this Observation is confirmed by the Writings of both Antients and Moderns.—*Celsus* * says, ' that
' cancerous Tumors may indeed be extir-
' pated

* ' *Quidam ferro adusserunt: Quidam scalpello exciderunt, neque ulli unquam Medicina profuit: Sed adusta, protinus concitata sunt, & increverunt, donec occiderent. Excisa etiam post inductam cicatricem, tamen reverterunt, & causam mortis attulerunt. Cum interim plerique nullam vim adhibendo, qua tollere id*

‘ pated by the Knife, and actual Cantery ;
 ‘ for no Medicine ever was found service-
 ‘ able ; but if they are cauterized, the
 ‘ Disorder is immediately irritated and en-
 ‘ creased, ’till the Patient is destroy’d.—
 ‘ If after the Excision you heal the Wound,
 ‘ nevertheless the Disease returns, and is
 ‘ the Occasion of Death.—Whereas in the
 ‘ mean time most of those who use no vio-
 ‘ lent Means, by which the Distemper is
 ‘ endeavoured to be removed, but apply
 ‘ only lenient Medicaments, which as it
 ‘ were sooth and palliate the Disorder, it is
 ‘ by that Means rendered supportable even
 ‘ to a good old Age.’

§ 5. Amongst the Moderns, the princi-
 pal Author of my Acquaintance, to our
 present Purpose, is, that ingenious and
 most indefatigable Professor of Anatomy,
 Mr. *Monro* of *Edinburgh* ; who, after hav-
 ing given us several Histories of ulcerated
Cancers, discharging a bloody Lymph,
 concludes with the following Remarks.—
 ‘ The quick Return of the cancrous Knots,

‘ *malum tentent ; sed imponendo tantum lenia medica-*
 ‘ *menta, quæ quasi blandiantur, quo minus ad ultimam*
 ‘ *senectutem perveniant, non prohibeantur.* *Aur. Corn.*
Celsi Lib. vth. cap. xxviii. p. 317. § 2.

‘ after

‘ after the Extirpation of the Breast in this
 ‘ Case *, calls to my Remembrance a Problem which I have often wished to have
 ‘ a Solution of, whether ought cancerous
 ‘ Tumors to be extirpated, or ought the
 ‘ palliative Method only to be followed
 ‘ when they cannot be resolved ? ’

§ 6. ‘ The Resolution of a Cancer I acknowledge to be very rare, but having
 ‘ seen two such Tumors, or at least what
 ‘ I judged to be such, cured, I could not
 ‘ exclude the Supposition altogether. To
 ‘ encourage others to tell their Experience
 ‘ and Opinion, I shall give you mine.

§ 7. ‘ Of near sixty Cancers, which I
 ‘ have been present at the Extirpation of,
 ‘ only four Patients remained free of the
 ‘ Disease for two Years. Three of these
 ‘ lucky People had occult Cancers in the
 ‘ Breast, and the fourth had an ulcerated
 ‘ Cancer of the Lip.

§ 8. ‘ The Disease does not return always to the Part where the former Tumor was taken away; but more frequently in the Neighbourhood, and sometimes at a considerable Distance.

§ 9. ‘ Upon a Return, the Disease in those I saw was more violent, and made

* *Vide Med. Essays*, Vol. Vth. Art. xxxii. 3d Edit.
 page 345.

‘ a much quicker Progress than it did in
 ‘ others to whom no Operation had been
 ‘ performed.

§ 10. ‘ When an ulcerated Cancer that
 ‘ can be extirpated, is wasting the Patient
 ‘ so fast that it must bring Death in a
 ‘ short Time, there seems little Doubt,
 ‘ that it ought to be taken away as the
 ‘ only Means of prolonging Life.

§ 11. ‘ If an occult Cancer is occasioned
 ‘ to a young healthy Person by a Bruise or
 ‘ such other external Cause, the Hope of
 ‘ escaping a Relapse would persuade us to
 ‘ extirpate it.

§ 12. ‘ In all other cancrus Cases, the
 ‘ earnest Entreaty of the Patients, who have
 ‘ had the Danger of a Relapse fairly ex-
 ‘ plained to them, and not the Surgeon’s
 ‘ Persuasions, would make the Extirpa-
 ‘ tion be undertaken.’

§ 13. Here we see *Celsus*’s and Mr.
Monro’s Opinion correspond pretty near-
 ly.—We shall not wonder therefore to find
 many Surgeons extremely cautious in ad-
 vising the Operation ; when two illustrious
Surgeons, one antient and the other modern,
 recommend it in so few Cases.

But why the Antients so seldom happily
 succeeded, was in a great Measure owing
 to the Impropriety of their treating it.—

Cel-

Celsus * says, ‘ when the Disorder is known
 ‘ to be a *Cancer*, caustic Medicines ought
 ‘ to be applied ; and if the Disease and its
 ‘ Symptoms are lessened and abated, the
 ‘ Cure may be further carried on by the
 ‘ Knife and actual Cautery.’ Hence it is
 evident, that the Disease must be greatly
 irritated previous to the Operation : the
 bad Consequences of which may easily be
 conceived by a skilful Practitioner.—But
 others of the Antients used a Method
 still more preposterous, than that directed
 by *Celsus* ; particularly *Aetius* † (in his De-
 scription of the Operation for a *Cancer*, to
Leonidas) advises the cancerous Tumor to
 be incised above the sound Part of the
 Breast, the Wound to be cauterized ’till
 an *Eschar* being formed, suppresses the
 Hæmorrhage ; and then Incision and Cau-
 terization was to be again repeated alter-
 nately till the whole of the Cancer was
 eradicated.—But after this Method of Am-
 putation is completed, he says, the Parts
 should be cauterized again ’till they are

* ‘ Ergo, ubi primum id vitium notatum est, imponi
 ‘ debent medicamenta adurentia. Si levatur malum,
 ‘ minuunturque ejus indicia, procedere curatio potest &
 ‘ ad scalpellum, & ad usionem.” Lib. v. cap. 28.
 p. 318.

† *Tetrabib.* iv. *Serm.* iv. cap. 45, & 46. p. 981.

dry: The first Intention of Cauterizing, he says, is to stop the Blood, and the last is to destroy all the Remains of the Distemper. But he further adds, that *Schirri* may be extirpated by Incision only; as in these he thinks there is no great Danger of an Hæmorrhage, and therefore no Necessity for the Cautery *.

It is certain that a *Cancer*, in a bad Habit of Body, is now the most lamentable of all other Diseases.—But how shocking and deplorable a State must those unhappy People be in, in former Days, who were afflicted with it, and consented to come under the Surgeon's Hands? It is evident, that many of the antient Physicians and Surgeons were Men of the greatest Parts, and indefatigable Industry; and in some Particulars, perhaps, superior to the Moderns: but in many of their surgical Operations, they seem to have acted with little more Knowledge or Judgment than our modern *Mountebanks*, *Cowleeches*, or *Farriers*.

§ 14. But such cruel Methods of operating have of late Years been justly exploded; unless in some very extraordinary Cases; great Improvements having been made to

* *Van Swieten*, &c. p. 890.

(II)

the most ancient and noble Science of *Sur-*
gery, by the united Endeavours of some of
the Moderns both at Home and Abroad ;
especially in these thirty Years last past. —
Amongst whom we may justly include
Professor *Monro* ; to whose Opinion I have
always had the greatest Regard ; and when-
ever I think myself obliged to dissent from
him, it is always with much Diffidence of
myself : for, I am satisfied, my own Ex-
perience hitherto, is not, neither would it
have been, a sufficient Motive for me to
speak my Thoughts so freely on the present
Subject, as I shall now do, were not the
Opinions of some very eminent Authors
on my Side. — I shall therefore, encouraged
by Mr. *Monro*'s Leave, (§ 6.) give frankly
my Sentiments.

That but only four out of sixty, who
underwent the Operation for extirpating
this terrible Disease, remained well more
than two Years (§ 7.) every one must allow
is but small Encouragement for a prudent
Surgeon to recommend the Operation, if
we must in general expect to meet the like
Success. — This Point we shall then, with
the utmost Submission, enquire into, and,
if it be found to agree with the Professor's
Remarks, it will agree, that his Solution
(§ 12.) of the Problem (§ 5.) is extremely
B 6 just ;

just ; and what ought to be particularly observed by every good Surgeon.

§ 15. That the Resolution * of a *Cancer* is very seldom, I will infer from what Mr. *Monro* says himself ; for, in his extensive Practice, he observes but two such Tumors which were cured by this Method ; and, even concerning these, he seems doubtful whether they were truly cancerous. (§ 6.)

Before we proceed, let us take a View of what some other practical Writers say concerning the Success of attempting the Cure of cancerous Tumors by Resolution. — But, first, it will be necessary to take Notice of such Parts of the Body as are most liable to this Distemper.

§ 16. The Parts the most subject to a *Cancer*, are, according to Mr. *Chefelden*, † the Breasts and *Uterus* in Women ; the Tongue, Mouth, and *Penis* in Men, and the Eyes in Children ; yet there is no Part where this Disease has not sometimes fixed.

§ 17. The Reason why a *Cancer* generally fixes on these Parts, is, because they are most glandulous ; but as there are Glands interspersed throughout the Body,

* *Vide* §. 41 of this Essay.

† *Anatomy, cap. i. book iii. 6th Ed.*

no Part is therefore entirely exempt from it. — Besides, the different Structure of the Glands, necessary for their different Offices, subject some Parts of the Body to this Disease more than others : For those Glands which have frequently suffered any great Distension by their contained Fluids, whether natural or præternatural, are the most liable to be attack'd with the cancerous Poison ; particularly the Glands of the *Uterus*, which swell much at the Time of the *Menstrua* ; and if these are unreasonably stopp'd, Obstructions may arise, which will bring on a *Cancer*. The same may likewise happen in the Breasts, during Lactation, from an unseasonable Stoppage * of the Milk, &c. Other Glands indeed are liable to have Obstructions formed in them, either by Blows or a bad State of the Juices, or these conjunctly, and so may become the Seat of this Disease : But these happen less frequently in the Legs, Arms, Jaws, Neck, &c. and I am inclined to think that Schirrosities in these Parts are very seldom of a cancerous Nature ; nay, Experience shews they are not.

§ 18. If the *Cancer* falls upon the Eyes, *Uterus*, *Fauces*, *Uvula*, *Tonsillæ*, *Axillæ*,

* *Vide* §. 73, of this Essay.

and

and *Inguina*, it scarcely ever admits of a Cure; but if it seizes the Lips, Eye-lids, Breasts, or Testicles, it is sometimes cured.

§ 19. All the best Writers † agree, first, that a *Schirrus* is mostly the Fore-runner of a *Cancer*, || especially when seated in any of those Parts mention'd in § 16.

That, secondly, some few of these *Schirri* terminate by Resolution; but more frequently by that Attempt degenerate into a *Cancer*.

§ 20. We may, likewise, further observe, first, that Authors * have given us but few Instances of schirrous Tumors resolved on Parts of the Body most subject to *Cancers*: — That, secondly, the Majority of those Tumors which have yielded to this Method, have been seated on such Parts, and in general had such Symptoms, as may make us justly doubt whether they were cancerous or not.

'Till then we are so happy, (and happy would it be for our Patients) as to be fur-

† *Vide Sharp's Treatise on the Operations of Surgery, &c. chap. xxvi.* Also *Wifeman's Surgery, chap. of the Schirrus.* *Heister* on the same.

|| See § 55, of this Essay.

* Particularly see *Wifeman's* 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th Observations, in *cap. of the Schirrus*, who is esteem'd one of the best *English* Authors.

nished with some Remedy, on which we can rely more than any we are acquainted with at present, it will remain a Matter of Dispute with me, whether we ever ought to endeavour at resolving a cancerous Tumor, even when it is seated on a Part where the Operation is practicable. — My Reason for this Opinion will presently appear. — But before we say any thing in Favour of the Operation, we ought previously to prove it is safe, and may be attended with Success. — We shall presently examine further into the Merits of it; but will, first, say something more in regard to Resolution; because this Discourse is not design'd to favour one Side more than another, but as each Method of Practice shall be found, both from Reason and Experience, to deserve the Preference.

§. 21. 'Tis certainly the Duty of the Surgeon (and, indeed, common Humanity prompts us to use our utmost Endeavours) to preserve every Part or Member of the Body; and he that is able to perform the most Cures without Amputation, merits much greater Praise than the best operating Surgeon that ever liv'd, who, as Mr. *Freke*† observes, is only able to boast of

† Essay of the Art of Healing, &c. p. 178.

the Numbers he has taken off. — But if any particular Disease is of so violent and stubborn a Nature, that nothing but the Extirpation of the morbid Part is found, once in a hundred Times, to prove a Cure, nay, that even the Neglect of the Operation has frequently been fatal to the Patient, no one, in such Cases, can hesitate which Method he ought to take, because of two Evils, Reason always bids us choose the least. I don't say this as an Insinuation, to prepossess the Reader in Favour of the Operation; I shall fairly, (as far as I am capable) examine, as I before said, how far it may be useful, and then leave him to judge as he thinks proper of it.

§ 22. To return therefore to our Proposition: Let us consider when we may with any Degree of Probability, entertain Hopes of succeeding by Resolution. To speed in this Attempt, it will be, first, necessary to diligently enquire into the Nature or Cause of this Disease, as far as we are able, by which Means we may perhaps be the better directed, not only to the most eligible Time of setting about the Intention of Resolution, but likewise to the Choice of such Medicines as may best answer that Purpose.

§ 23. Messieurs † *Du Fouart*, and *Faget*, in the *Memoirs* of the *Royal Academy* of *Surgery* at *Paris*, have, by several curious Experiments, discovered, that cancerous Tumors are formed of stagnant, inspissated, lymphatic, and gelatinous Juices; which, by a putrid Dissolution, are thought to be converted into a malignant and corrosive *Sanies*, that soon ulcerates the *Flesh*, &c.

§ 24. By the Help of this Discovery, and some further Experiments on the Contents of these Tumors, they were in Hopes of having light on some more efficacious Remedies, than have hitherto been found out for resolving them. — But their Success was not answerable to their Wishes: And although, I think, Mr. *Faget* carried on his Tryals with greater Justness than the other, yet his Experiments have furnished us with no Medicines that can be rely'd on for that Intention. — He observes, That little Dependence is to be had on attenuating and inciding Medicines, and that we are reduc'd to the Necessity of using simple Emollients and Resolvents.

§ 25. ' We may, indeed, as he remarks, * look on Emollients as true at-

|| *Vide* Memoir iv. and Memoir xxii.

* Page 577.

‘ tenuating Remedies : But this does not
 ‘ hold good in respect to Resolvents, which
 ‘ do not operate, except in so far as they
 ‘ excite the Action of the Vessels, in so far
 ‘ as, after this Action is excited, the Vessels
 ‘ divide the stagnant Juices ; and,
 ‘ lastly, in so far as the active Parts of the
 ‘ Remedies, which have excited the Action
 ‘ of the Vessels, are in their Turn agitated
 ‘ by the Vessels, and, by means of this
 ‘ Agitation, forced to penetrate and divide
 ‘ the Humours. — Besides, this last Effect
 ‘ is difficultly proved; except perhaps in the
 ‘ Metallic Remedies, whose Parts have a Bulk
 ‘ and Weight sufficient to receive a Motion,
 ‘ by which they may penetrate into, and act
 ‘ upon the Substances of the Humours.

§ 26. ‘ Mercury itself, which is look’d
 ‘ upon as the most powerful of all Attenuants,
 ‘ whether taken internally or applied externally,
 ‘ can only operate in this Manner by the
 ‘ Interposition of the Action of the Vessels.
 ‘ If this Action is entirely extinguished,
 ‘ Mercury produces no Effect, so that it is
 ‘ not properly speaking an Attenuant, but a
 ‘ Resolvent, which only operates on the
 ‘ Humours by the Action of the Vessels.”

§ 27. Hence we learn the proper Time to attempt the Resolution of a cancerous Tumor: “ For Emollients as well as Resolvents, are only proper in the Beginnings of indurated Tumors, which may become carcinomatous, especially those occasioned by any Blow ; for when the organic Force of the Solids is destroy’d, the Humours which are moistened and soften’d by emollient Remedies, are easily depraved in the Place where they are lodg’d ; because, not being moved and sent back into the Course of the Circulation, by the Action of the Solids, they must in this Case be much sooner corrupted, than when they are less moist and fluid.” — Hence also, we learn to account for the Truth of this Observation by ancient Authors, particularly *Galen* has observed, that cancerous Tumors are often exasperated by Emollients.

§ 28. ‘ It would, in this Case, be in vain by Resolvents, to attempt the Removal of the Juices moistened and attenuated by means of Emollients ; because, the former of these Remedies, operating entirely by the organic Action of the Solids, can produce no Effect when that Action is extinguished. — Thus, when carcinomatous Tumors are arrived at a certain State
‘ it

' it is evident they cannot be cured by
 ' Medicines, but must be destroy'd by
 ' Extirpation. *

§ 29. We find M. *Faget* has given us but little Encouragement to hope for many Cures by Resolution ; and 'tis evident by § 27, 28, that the greatest Caution ought to be used, lest we encrease the Disease by the most simple Emollients ; and also, that if we do attempt the Cure of recent cancerous Tumors by Resolvents, we must rather hope for Success in those proceeding from external Accidents, as Blows, &c. than when they are occasioned from an internal Cause. — It appears too by § 19. that it is very dangerous, in many Cases, to attempt the Cure of schirrous or cancerous Tumors by Resolution, because even the most cautious and seemingly prudent Applications for that Intent, have, frequently, been found to occasion the *Schirrus* terminating in an ulcerated *Cancer*. — This Observation was certainly made long ago, by that illustrious old Man, the Greek *Hippocrates*, which gave Rise to

* See what he further says on the Use of sulphureous Waters for the Resolution of these Tumors. *ibid.* p. 578. *Engl. Ed.*

that

that memorable Aphorism, † viz. ‘ It is
 ‘ better for those who have occult *Cancers*
 ‘ arise, not to attempt the curing them;
 ‘ for by that Means they are sooner de-
 ‘ stroy’d; whereas if they are not meddled
 ‘ with, such Patients may live a long
 ‘ Time.”

Hence we learn the Danger of trusting to the Unskilful in the Cure of Diseases; for, sometimes, the most simple Remedy, in the Hands of the Ignorant, becomes like a Sword in a Mad-man’s Hand. The Empiric, indeed, surprized at finding his Patient immediately grow worse, by the Use of such Applications as he cannot conceive should be any Way injurious, shelters himself under the Confession of having used only such Simples, as every one on knowing them (not skilled in the Cure of Diseases) must think quite innocent, and so the deluded Person charges that on the Badness of his Constitution, which ought in Justice to be laid on the Imposture. — An Instance of this I once knew; and shall relate it in the following Case.

† *Quibus occulti canceri oriuntur, illos non curare præstat: curati enim citius pereunt, non curati vero multum tempus perdurant.*

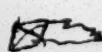
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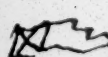
OBSERVATION I.

An elderly Woman who had been afflicted with a *Schirrus* in her left Breast, for several Years, at length applied for Relief to a Pretender in Surgery, who ignorantly ordered an emollient Fomentation and Cataplasm to the grieved Part for some time : Afterwards the Tumor enlarging and growing extremely painful, a regular Surgeon was advised with ; who wisely endeavoured to suppress its Growth, and restrain the Inflammation of the whole Breast ; at the same Time informing her, that those bad Symptoms were brought on by the imprudent Application of her *Pseudo-Chirurgus* : — He hearing that his Remedies had been found Fault with, in the Surgeon's Absence, went to his late Patient, and told her every particular Ingredient he had made Use of ; at the same Time artfully insinuating, that to find Fault in such Cases was a Thing of Course, and that she was very sensible such simple Applications could not produce those bad Effects — She in a great Measure believed him, and thought his Reasoning was just ; and, I really think, to the last she never imagined that what he had done for her was prejudicial ;

judicial ; especially as she did not find that Benefit she expected under the Care of a good Surgeon, *viz.* to have been cured. — About two Years before her Death the Cancer ulcerated, and was palliated under my Care in the last twelve Months of her Life. When she became my Patient, there was a very large and fordid Ulcer, the whole Breast being almost eat away, two of the Ribs carious, and several large and painful schirrous Knots in the *Axilla* ; yet she was otherwise tolerably healthful, had a pretty good Appetite, but was always irregular and injudicious in the Election of her Diet. — About fourteen Weeks before she died, the *Cancer* became suddenly more than ordinarily putrid and offensive ; on which Account I applied some *Aq. Phagedænica*, which, (being ill prepared with *effete Aq. Calcis*,) gave her great Pain : The Night after its Application she grew feverish, was thirsty, between Times delirious, had a quick, but not very strong Pulse, *Subultus Tendinum*, and three bloody Stools. — Alarmed at these Symptoms, the next Morning the Phagedænic Dressings were immediately exchanged for those which had been used all along, *viz.* Pledgets of soft Lint dipped in warm *Aq. Cal. cum Lap. Medicament*, and secured from coming off by

by a Plaister of a soft saturnine Cerate, spread on Cloth, and cut full of Holes for the ready Emission of the purulent *Sanies*. — I bled her, and prescribed Emulsions with *Sperm. Cæti*, oily Mixtures, and such other Things as are allowed to sheath and obtund Acrimony. — In a few Days she recover'd from this Disorder; but the Lips of the *Cancer*, were thicker, inflamed, and more turgid than usual: the Knots in the *Axilla* were likewise enlarged; and the whole of the Ulcer rather more painful than common. — Bleeding was repeated, and some gentle Purgatives administer'd at proper Intervals: the Lips of the Ulcer were likewise dress'd twice a-day with the following Liniment.

 R *Flor. lact. vaccin. rec. ℥ij. Succi sedi major. colati recent. expressi ℥i. Mercur. dulcis præcipitati, Plumb. nig. sub. pulver. āā ʒij. M. F. Liniment.*

 What I call *Mercurius dulcis præcipitatus*, is prepared in this Manner. Take of strong *Aq. Calcis* one Pound; of *Mercur. dulcis* well levigated, half an Ounce; mix, and let them stand together a Day or two till the Mercury is precipitated in a very black Powder at the Bottom of the Glass; then
fe-

separate it from the Water, by filtering the latter *per chartam* : The remaining Powder in the Paper is to be dry'd, and kept in a Vial close stopp'd for Use. Pledgets of Lint were dipp'd in the foresaid Liniment, and applied as before-mention'd ; the remaining Part of the Ulcer being dress'd as usual. — In three Weeks Time this Application had so good an Effect, that the *Sanies* was less fetid, the Lips of the Ulcer daily grew thinner, and had a better Aspect ; the Pains likewise abated ; but the schirrous Tumors in the Arm-pit encreased in Size, and by their Pressure on the axillary Vessels, the Arm on that Side became universally swelled, to the Extremities of the Fingers, and at length was render'd quite useless. Thus she continued the remaining few Weeks of her Life, and at last died in the Night, in a Sort of a Convulsion Fit ; having the Evening before eat a hearty Supper of Sausages boil'd in Milk-Broth.

N. B. No more of the preceding Liniment ought to be made at once, than may serve one Day in the Summer ; but in the Winter, it will keep good two or three Days. — The Cream ought to be thick and new. — The Juice of the *Sedum Majus* may be expressed over Night, and by the Morn-

ing the *Fæces* will be subsided, so that you may decant the clear off for Use.

see }
p. 23 } I find, since I had the foregoing Case, that the bad Effects of an ill prepared Phagedænic-Water has been observed by Professor *Monro*; * and therefore his Caution concerning it, may be very seasonably put here. — ‘ This I mention to have an Opportunity of warning the younger Surgeons not to make Use of that Medicine, unless when the Lime-water is strong enough to make the Solution of the *corrosive sublimate Mercury* to turn turbid, and to precipitate in Form of a very fine red Powder; for if the Lime-Water is effete, and remains clear after the *Sublimate* is mixed with it, instead of a very mild Medicine, they are to expect all the Effects of unaltered *corrosive Mercury*.’

Having gone thus far, and proved from the preceding Theory, that no Dependence is to be had on the resolving Method, but at the Beginning of the Disease, we will therefore pass by that for the present, and next endeavour to see what Extirpation will do for us; that in Case Resolution cannot be effected, we may know how to proceed, whether to recommend the Ope-

* Medical Essays, p. 87. Vol. i. 3d. Ed.

ration,

ration, or only advise the palliative Method.

§ 30. We have observed in § 13, that *Celsus's* Opinion and *Monro's* agree in respect to the Disease being very apt to return after the Operation: We may likewise further take Notice, that most of the intermediate Authors, who have writ on this Subject, say just the same Thing: They all allow that the Extirpation of the Tumor is the principal Means to be depended upon; but this often fails, and then the intended Remedy proves worse than the Distemper. — But I must observe, that many of those Authors I am acquainted with, (except a few since *Celsus's* Time) have, in several Instances, rather been guided in their Writings by the Authorities of their Predecessors, than by their own Experience; and when they perform'd the Operation, it was frequently in such Stages of the Disease, and under such Circumstances, that there was scarce any Hopes of a radical Cure. — Others, who have thought themselves wiser than their Fore-fathers, and to have benefitted by their Errors, imagined, that if the Tumor was extirpated at its very first Appearance, before it had, as they thought, infected the Mass of Blood, they might obtain good Success; but Experience has

taught them, that this is not always the most proper Time for Extirpation; for that notwithstanding the Operation has been early perform'd, and the Part healed, yet the Disease has soon after return'd * ; sometimes the Wound has proved cancerous; in both which Cases, the Patient has been carried off with the utmost Rapidity. †

Mr. *Monro* indeed, (equally qualified for the Science he professes) must be excluded the Number of those guided by Authority; what he tells us, is from his own Knowledge and Experience; he has ingenuously (like a good and honest Man) given us both his good and bad Success; therefore, what he has said, appears the greatest Bar to the Operation. — But, with Submission, we will enquire into some Circumstances, which, it is highly probable, attended most of those unhappy Patients.

§ 31. He has told us, (§ 7.) that three of the lucky People, who recover'd out of the sixty, had occult *Cancers* in the Breast, and the fourth had an ulcerated *Cancer* of the Lip. — I wish Mr. *Monro* had favour'd us with an Account of the Condition of the fifty-six Patients who miscarried in their

* *Vide* § 37. of this Essay.

† *Sharp's* Critical Enquiry, &c. p. 104.

Cure. — It would have been no small Satisfaction to have known what Regimen they observed after the Operation; whether the Majority of them had occult or ulcerated *Cancers*; where the Disease was seated in each, and how long it was after the Beginning of their Disorders, before they applied for Help. — 'Tis reasonable to suppose, that many of these unfortunate People had not the good Luck of falling under Mr. *Monro*'s Care at the Beginning of their Complaints, or, perhaps, under any judicious Surgeon's Inspection. — Perhaps the Mal-treatment they might meet with from ignorant Practitioners, or their long Neglect in not applying for proper Assistance at the Beginning of the Disease, or 'till it was very far advanced, (as is frequently the Case) might render the Majority of them such Subjects, as (Mr. *Monro* thinks § 10.) the Operation ought to take Place in, as the only Means of prolonging Life, without Hopes of a lasting Cure.

§ 32. What I have said in the preceding Section, may perhaps be called begging the Question, and therefore, it may be thought, as we are not certain of the Truth of those Suppositions, the Arguments which may be deduced from them ought

not to be conclusive? To this I must answer, that there was a great deal of Reason to suggest what we have said; and the Truth of this will appear in the following Case, as related by Mr. *Monro* himself: We shall there see, that Peoples Obstinacy, under the best of Care, is frequently the Occasion of their not doing well.

OBSERVATION II.

‘ A Woman who had born several Children, being again with Child in 1733, the 37th of her Age, observed the Nipple of her right Breast drawn inwards, so that, when she was brought to Bed, the Child could not catch hold of it to suck it. — When the Child was a Year old, the Mother was suddenly frightened when her *Menses* were upon her; which put them away, and she never after had any Return of them.

‘ In *March* 1739 she recovered from a dangerous Fever, soon after which she was exposed to Cold, and was violently in Wrath, Fear and Grief, receiving at the same Time a Bruise on her right Breast. This Shock confined her to her Bed three Months, and soon after it she perceived a small painful red Tumor in
‘ the

‘ the inferior exterior Part of the right
 ‘ Breast, which she neglected.

‘ In the End of *July* 1740, when I saw
 ‘ her first, the right Breast was very large
 ‘ and hard, with such sharp Pain that she
 ‘ slept none; the Veins of the Skin were
 ‘ varicous, and the Nipple was shrunk
 ‘ out of Sight. I however felt a Fluctua-
 ‘ tion in it, and judged it to be such a
 ‘ Case as the preceding. *

‘ Next Day *July* 31, I made a young
 ‘ Gentleman, my Pupil, put a small Lancet
 ‘ in the inferior anterior Part, where it
 ‘ was thinnest and most prominent. He
 ‘ let out eight Ounces of a bloody Lymph,
 ‘ without Smell, but salt, when tasted;
 ‘ which, held in a Spoon over a Candle,
 ‘ coagulated. A very short Tent was put
 ‘ into the Orifice, secured from going into
 ‘ the Cavity by a Thread, and hindered to
 ‘ come out by adhesive Plaister. She slept
 ‘ better that Night, having less Pain.

‘ *August* 1. Four Ounces of the same
 ‘ Sort of Lymph ran out, the Tumor was
 ‘ less, the Skin was of a natural Colour,
 ‘ and the Veins were contracted. A little

* It was such a Case, which see in the Medical
 Essays, Vol. V. p. 340. 3d Ed.

‘ Lime-Water and *Melrose*, were injected
 ‘ tepid into the Cavity of the Ulcer.

‘ *August* 3. Two Ounces and a half of
 ‘ Liquor ran out of the Sore: This Liquor
 ‘ was more of a purple Colour, and less
 ‘ salt to the Taste. It was dressed as for-
 ‘ merly. — 4th. The Tumor felt as if di-
 ‘ vided in the Middle, and as if it were
 ‘ falling to Pieces; her Appetite was better,
 ‘ the Pain less, an Ounce of Liquor ran
 ‘ out; the Dressings the same. — 5th. She
 ‘ underwent what the Women call a Weed,
 ‘ which resembles the Paroxysm of an
 ‘ Ague. This Day the Liquor evacuated
 ‘ at the Sore, was in greater Quantity,
 ‘ thinner, darker coloured, more fetid,
 ‘ and, when held in a Spoon over a Candle,
 ‘ did not coagulate. — By drinking plenti-
 ‘ fully of thin warm Liquor, she had a
 ‘ profuse Sweat, which carried off the
 ‘ Weed. — 6th. The Tumor was harder,
 ‘ the Pain greater, the Liquor fetid; a
 ‘ little *Digestive* was added to the In-
 ‘ jection.

‘ Two Months, Attempts were made to
 ‘ melt down the Hardness; but so unsuc-
 ‘ cessfully, that it increased, became more
 ‘ painful, and wasted her: Yet she abso-
 ‘ lutely all the while refused to let it be cut
 ‘ off. Her left Breast, then inflamed, was
 ‘ soon

‘ soon brought to Suppuration by proper
 ‘ Applications, and cured in a few Days.
 ‘ Soon after, five small Tubercles were
 ‘ observed in the right Arm-pit; which
 ‘ disappeared in a few Days, upon a fun-
 ‘ gous Excrescence thrusting out at the
 ‘ Orifice in the Breast of the same Side,
 ‘ and some long tough Substances coming
 ‘ out with the Matter.

‘ Some Days after, a soft equal Tumor,
 ‘ about the Size of a large Nutmeg, with-
 ‘ out Pain or Discolouring, started up at
 ‘ the interior Side of the affected Breast,
 ‘ the *Fungus* in the Orifice having retired
 ‘ at the same Time, and the Lips retorting,
 ‘ with all the very bad Symptoms of an
 ‘ ulcerated Cancer; which in a short Time
 ‘ made her so miserable, that she was con-
 ‘ tent to submit to the Amputation of the
 ‘ Breast; which was done successfully by
 ‘ the same young Gentleman, who, under
 ‘ my Directions, had taken care of her
 ‘ from the Beginning.

‘ Some Months after the Wound was
 ‘ firmly cicatrized, and she strong and
 ‘ well, some Knots began to appear in the
 ‘ Arm-pit, and at the Edge of the pec-
 ‘ toral Muscle: She was frightened for more
 ‘ cutting, and let them increase and spread,
 ‘ till now she seems to be in a Way of

‘ suffering all the Miseries of a Cancer that
 ‘ cannot be taken away.

This is the Case referr’d to in Page the eighth of this Essay, and from which Mr. *Monro* made those Remarks, § 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

We must observe that her Obstinacy (in not submitting to the Operation when Mr. *Monro* would have had her,) at length rendered her an improper Subject for Amputation, unless for the Reasons assign’d in § 10. — The cancerous Poison had infected the axillary Glands before the Operation was perform’d is very evident; for five small Tubercles arose in the right Arm-pit, which disappeared in a few Days; and it was sometime after their Disappearance, that the Breast was amputated; had these Tubercles continued in Sight ’till the Time of the Operation, in all Probability they would have been extirpated, if possible, with the Breast; by which Means she might have obtained a radical Cure.

§ 33. The Operation not happily succeeding in such Cases as that was, is, in my humble Opinion, no Discouragement to undertake it in Cases * where we may

* *Vide* § 35. of this Essay.

be pretty certain of extirpating all the diseased Parts.

As Mr. *Monro* seem'd to draw his Remarks, in a great Measure, from the preceding Observation, is it not reasonable to suppose that many of the other unhappy Patients were in similar Circumstances, previous to the Operation ?

But I beg this Criticism, may not be looked upon as a Reflection on this worthy *Gentleman*, of whose Abilities I am extremely well satisfied ; and, as I before observed § 14, I am always in doubt of my own Judgment when it happens to be contrary to such great Men's : But, notwithstanding, this should not encourage an over-scrupulous Submission, or such a criminal Modesty, as might hinder a proper Search into the Truth of such Circumstances, as might be prejudicial to Mankind : Certainly no Improvement can be made, in any Art or Science, where a rational Liberty of Enquiry is deny'd. — Indeed, I have much less to fear from Mr. *Monro* himself (should this Essay ever be honoured by his Perusal) than from those who espouse his Opinion in every Particular so rigidly, that they look upon it as the highest Degree of Presumption, in any one of an inferior Character, to say or do any

thing contrary to his Advice: But I am likewise less solicitous about what such People may say; as I am confident Mr. *Monro's* good Sense, Generosity, and thorough Acquaintance with human Nature, will very readily dispose him to pardon me, for any Liberty I have here taken with his Opinion. That all Arts and Sciences owe their present State of Perfection to the united Endeavours of many eminent Men, both ancient and modern, I presume, will be readily granted me; therefore we must not yield an implicit Faith to any single Opinion, tho' of the greatest Authority. — One ingenious Man finds out one Thing, and *another* another; so that by consulting them all, we gradually light on such a Degree of Perfection, as could not be obtained without this Procedure. — To treat therefore the Disease properly, which is the Subject of the present Discourse, it is necessary, I humbly conceive, to call to our Assistance the Opinions of Men of known extensive Practice, Sagacity, and Experience; such as *Monro, Cheselden, Freke, Sharp*, &c. whose great Candour and Regard for Posterity, would not suffer them to publish and recommend to the World, a Method of Practice they had not the greatest Reason to believe the most safe and

and effectual in curing the several Diseases which they respectively have treated of.

§ 34. We have already partly examined Mr. *Monro's* Opinion, which intimates, that we never ought to advise the Extirpation of a *Cancer*, but under the Restrictions in § 10, 11, 12. — This Gentleman's Caution * to Practitioners to be upon their Guard in treating Diseases in the Breasts, lest they mistake a schirrous or cancerous Tumor attended with a Collection of bloody Lymph for some other Disorder, is so necessary to be observed, that every one who calls himself a Surgeon, ought to blush at not being duly acquainted with it: But then again, his Conclusion (§ 12.) concerning advising the Operation, is too limited, and is enough to deter the Generality of Surgeons from an Undertaking, which, with Submission, I would be willing to make appear, might be the Means of saving the Lives of many. — 'Tis certain, and what every skilful Surgeon must allow, that the Success of the Operation is precarious; but yet, I should hope, that if the Extirpation of the *Cancer* was attempted before it had gained too much Ground, and the Continuance of such a Diet, Re-

* *Vide Med. Essays, Vol. v. p. 337. 3d Ed.*

gimen,

gimen, &c. be duly observed, as we shall presently insist upon after it, we might in many Cases meet with good Success, and that the Majority of those, who would submit to the Operation, might obtain a radical Cure.

From what has been said it will be easy to perceive, that I would evince the Necessity of the Patients applying early in cancerous Cases, if they expect to find any lasting Benefit by the Surgeon's Skill. — 'Tis therefore absolutely necessary that Surgeons should be agreed about the Methods, which Experience has taught, most proper to treat this obstinate Disease in its several Stages. For, although in other Disorders (about which they differ in their Opinions, as to Method of Treatment, &c.) we find Persons apparently of similar Constitutions, afflicted with similar Diseases, recover under different Methods of Cure; yet, I fear, it will not happen so to those unhappy People afflicted with *Cancers*; and, I am well satisfied, they will oftentimes suffer greatly, if treated the least immethodically. — In common, or less stubborn Diseases, a happy Cure does not always argue the Propriety of the Treatment; and a diligent Enquiry would oftentimes inform us, that we were more obliged to
the

the Goodness of Nature, for the successful Event, than to the judicious Application of the Remedies. But to return.

§ 35. The general Rules laid down by the best Surgeons, for undertaking the Extirpation of cancerous Breasts, are, when the Tumor is moveable, or does not adhere to the Ribs ; and when there are no diseased Glands in the *Axillæ* ; or, at least, none which lay so deep but that they may be safely taken out, without wounding the larger Blood-Vessels. The same Rule holds good when the *Cancer* is seated in the Lips, Eye-lids, &c. — for, if you cannot extirpate every Part of the Tumor, there is no flattering yourself, or Patient, with the Hopes of a sound Cure.

§ 36. If it is adviseable to perform the Operation to lengthen a Patient's Days, when the Disease is at its greatest Malignity, (§ 10.) would it not be more adviseable to recommend it whilst the Disorder is occult, if the Patient is otherwise of a good Habit of Body, and also agreeable to the Rules in the preceding Section ?

§ 37. This Advice indeed, say some, appears the most reasonable, but Experience has shewn, that if you have the Opportunity of an early Extirpation of the Tumor, your Patient will gain but a small
Truce,

Truce, before the Disease will return with more Violence than at first, by § 30. — And from what Mr. *Monro* has said in § 9. it appears, at present, that his Opinion ought rather to be followed, § 12. — This indeed must be granted, if no Method can be proved sufficient to prevent a Relapse after the Operation ; and to eradicate, with some Certainty, the Cause of the Complaint. — But that some Remedies may be employ'd, which will many Times prevent a Relapse, I shall endeavour to prove ; not from reasoning *a priori*, but from some Observations of Mr. *Chefelden*, and others ; to which I may add my own ; and these all founded on Experience.

§ 38. He says, * ‘ It is a Matter of
 ‘ Dispute among some Surgeons, whether
 ‘ cancerous Tumors should ever be extir-
 ‘ pated or not, though it is certain none of
 ‘ these ever were cured without, and being
 ‘ extirpated there have been many. — The
 ‘ Objection against Extirpation is this,
 ‘ That the Operation often provokes the
 ‘ Part which otherwise might lye quiet :
 ‘ But I do not think this is true ; in des-
 ‘ perate Cases where we cannot extirpate,
 ‘ we find the best Remedy is plentiful

* *Vide his Anatomy, Book iii. Chap. i. 6th Ed.*

‘ Bleeding (which also is Nature’s last Re-
 ‘ fort) gentle constant Evacuations by Stool,
 ‘ and a vegetable Diet, and tho’ Phyfic
 ‘ never cures while the Tumor remains,
 ‘ yet after Extirpation it is highly useful,
 ‘ and even the worst of Constitutions have
 ‘ sometimes been brought to their primi-
 ‘ tive State.”

To illustrate this Doctrine he has given
 us the following Case.

OBSERVATION III.

‘ An eminent Surgeon in this City hav-
 ‘ ing a Patient with a cancerated Breast,
 ‘ extremely large, and so much ulcerated
 ‘ that the Stench of it was insupportable;
 ‘ she insisted upon the Extirpation against
 ‘ all Advice, with no other Hope, but to
 ‘ be delivered from the offensive Smell. —
 ‘ Sometime after the Operation, the Wound
 ‘ looking extremely fordid, he sprinkled
 ‘ it all over with red Mercury precipitate,
 ‘ which put the Patient into a high Sali-
 ‘ vation; upon which the Breast grew
 ‘ clean, and healed, the Patient recovered,
 ‘ and, contrary to all Expectation, lived
 ‘ many Years in good Health. — From this
 ‘ Accident, says he, I learnt the Useful-
 ‘ ness of salivating after extirpating can-
 ‘ cerous

‘cerous Tumors, though nothing is more
 ‘hurtful before.—In the Extirpation of a
 ‘Breast, and all other Tumors, as much
 ‘Skin as is possible should be saved, for
 ‘the Loss of a great deal of Skin is suffi-
 ‘cient to make an incurable Ulcer in the
 ‘most healthful Body, and much more so
 ‘in a bad Constitution.’

§ 39. That Mr. *Sharp* * likewise favours
 my Opinion, will appear from what he says
 in his Chapter of the Amputation of the
 cancer’d and schirrous Breast. — ‘There
 ‘are some Surgeons, says he, so disheart-
 ‘ned by the ill Success of this Operation,
 ‘that they decry it in every Case, and
 ‘even recommend certain Death to their
 ‘Patients rather than a Trial, upon the
 ‘Supposition it never relieves; but the
 ‘Instances where Life and Health have
 ‘been preserved by it, are sufficiently nu-
 ‘merous to warrant the Recommendation
 ‘of it.

§ 40. It appears too from what has been
 said in the Dedication to this Essay, that
 Mr. *Freke* is likewise a Favourer of the
 Operation.—If then we be able to prove,
 that after the Extirpation of cancerous Tu-

* Treatise on the Operations of Surgery, &c.
 p. 129. 3d Edit.

mors the very worst of Constitutions (§ 38.) have, by a physical Regimen, &c. been restored to their former State of Health for a Continuance, I think, we may be encouraged to advise the Operation, where practicable, (§ 35.) with great Hopes of good Success.—But this Matter I shall, by and by, further illustrate with some Observations of my own.

Having thus far removed some of the Objections to Amputation, I shall beg Leave next to re-consider Resolution, and will occasionally add such Cases as may further illustrate the Usefulness of Extirpation, and other occurring Circumstances in the Sequel of this Treatise at the same Time.

§ 41. The Seldomness of the Resolution of a cancerous Tumor further appears from what Mr. *Chefelden* has said; (§ 38.) for, we must observe, that he positively denies any such ever being cured, without Extirpation.—It is very remarkable, (if cancerous Tumors are ever cured by Resolution) that a Person of Mr. *Chefelden*'s large and extensive Practice should never meet with one Case that would submit to this Method.—I would pay an equal Regard to the Opinions of other Men, (of equal Practice and Knowledge with Mr. *Chefelden*,) who have thought that cancerous
Tu-

Tumors do sometimes resolve ; otherwise we must immediately exclude the Supposition, without saying any more about it.—At present, I must own myself to be of the Opinion, that no truly cancerous Tumor has ever been cured by Resolution ; yet I would by no means endeavour to conceal the Sentiments of any ingenious Practitioner on this or any other Head, though not perfectly agreeable to the Method I would inculcate.—For, I solemnly declare, I write not in the least with an Intention to contradict any one ; and shall have no Pleasure in getting the Victory by Argument in one single Point, any farther than what may be necessary to ascertain the Truth.—Was I a perfect Master of Anatomy and Physiology, and the greatest Rhetorician that ever lived, I should think my Talents very ill bestowed in displaying them any further than to demonstrate the Truth ; especially on a Subject where the Healths and Lives of my Fellow-Creatures are immediately concerned.

§ 42. We may remember that Mr. *Monro* has not excluded the Thoughts of sometimes curing by Resolution, (§ 6.) as observed in § 15.—Some eminent Surgeons whom I have been personally acquainted with, have told me, that sometimes,
they

they have seen schirrous Tumors resolve in the Breast, which, as they imagined, threatened to prove cancerous.—As these Gentlemen, therefore, have not altogether given over the Thoughts of it, we will not exclude the Attempt, under the following Limitations.

§ 43. First,—In Cases where the Patient applies at the very Beginning of the Disease; is otherwise of a good Habit of Body, and not very far advanced in Years. Secondly,—That the Tumor be not exquisitely hard; for, according to *Wiseman**, *Schirri* of the greatest Degree of Induration admit of no Cure by Resolution; because the Parts cannot open to receive the free Afflux of Blood into them, but keep their own Hardness in despite of all Applications, and thereby the Use of Medicaments is rendered ineffectual. Thirdly,—That the Tumor is seated on a Part of the Body where the Operation can be performed, if found necessary. Fourthly and lastly,—That the Patient will place himself so near the Surgeon, as to be daily under his Inspection; that in case he finds the Tumor enlarges, or the least tending

* Surg. Chap. of the *Schirrus*. p. 91. Fol. Edit.

to ulcerate, he may know how to act accordingly.

§ 44. In Cases where the Operation is impracticable, I should rather advise the palliative Method than an Attempt to resolve the Tumors; because, if a schirrous Tumor should degenerate into an ulcerated Cancer by such an Endeavour, the Patient has no Chance afterwards of being freed from the Complaint by any Means yet discovered.

§ 45. Perhaps it may be expected I should, in this Place, recommend some Forms of external Applications for resolving these Tumors?—I would readily do it, did I know of any we might depend upon.—I shall therefore desire the Reader would consult the best Authors on this Head: Some of those I have quoted—*Wiseman, Heister, &c.* have given us several Forms to chuse out of.—There are in Authors various Preparations of the *Plumb. com.* which alone is said to be refrigerating, drying and repellent; and, by some, is esteemed an excellent Application for both occult and ulcerated *Cancers*.—I have used a Composition of *Plumb. nigr. Argent. viv. Pulv. Camphor. & Axung. porcin.* made into an Unguent, S. A. in a leaden Mortar. This Ointment I have applied

plied to some Tumors, which I was apprehensive might have proved cancerous; and, I think, I have seen some good Effects from it.—It is said, that if the *Axungia* has had frequent Insolations *cum succo solani vulg.* 'till it is grown perfectly green (before the other Ingredients are put to it) it adds much to the resolving Quality of the Unguent: but I never used it so.

OBSERVATION IV.

A Maiden Lady, some Years past that Period of Life when the *Kalamina* leave the Sex, complained frequently of an Uneasiness in the under and back Part of her right Arm, near the *Axilla*:—A few Weeks after this Complaint, she perceived a Knot about the Bigness of a Pea; which, in a Year's Time, encreased to the Size of a common Walnut: but it was not very painful.—In the Beginning of the Year 1750 (which was two Years after the Appearance of the Tumor) she applied to me.—I felt the Tumor moveable in the under part of the Arm, which was so situated, that when she held her Elbow close to her Side, part of the Tumor was seen behind, as if she had confined a small Ball in the *Axilla*.—It was now as big as a very large Wal-

Walnut, equal, not very hard, of the natural Complexion of the Skin, but not more painful than at first, except when by Accident she pressed it: But the Pains were pricking and shooting ones, as she expressed it.—She was fearful of the Consequence, (having been always apprehensive of its being cancerous) and therefore desired I would do every thing I thought proper to it: but cutting she hoped I would not mention.

Her Stays were immediately so contrived as they could not press or rub against the Tumor: She was bled, and twice in a Week, during three Weeks, she took Pills of *Mercur. dulcis, ad horam somni*, and on the Mornings ensuing the taking of the Pills, she took some refrigerating Purgatives of *Sal. Mirab. G. &c.*—Her Diet was chiefly of the lightest Kinds of Animal-Food, with a Pudding for Dinner, and a Draught or two of middling brisk Beer: Her other Meals were mostly of Rice and Milk.—The Unguent above-mentioned, was applied to the Tumor *bis in die*, for the Space of two Months, (and over that a Piece of blue Flannel, of which she had a great Opinion) when the Tumor was observed to be greatly decreased.—The Purgatives were repeated twice in a Month,

Month, for four Months, and a continual Application of the Ointment *omni nocte* near half a Year, when the Tumor was reduced to the Size of a small Hazel-nut, and the Pain entirely gone; unless, as she said, a little Shooting against Change of Weather.—I must not forget to mention, that she took of the following Electuary, almost all the Time she used the Unguent. p. 24

*R. Elect. lenitiv. ℥ij. Sulphur. præcipitat.
 ℥ss. Sal. prunellæ zij. Syr. Rosar. solut.
 q. s. f. Elect. cujus capiat ad Magni-
 tudinem nucis moschatæ bis in die, die-
 bus purgationi non dicatis.*

She then grew tired with the Trouble of the Ointment; and although nothing has been done to it lately, the Tumor has neither encreased nor decreased since she left off the Use of it.—But she still wears the Flannel.—She continues in much the same way of Living, as to Diet, and takes cooling Purgatives Spring and Fall.—She had such a Knot in her right Breast twenty Years ago, which was dispersed, as she tells me, by much the same Treatment. I could give some other similar Cases, where I have used the same Unguent with the like Success to Tumors of a few

D Weeks

Weeks standing ; but, as I am doubtful whether they were of a cancerous Nature, I shall not trouble the Reader with the Detail of them.

§ 46. Upon no other Terms than those mentioned in § 43. can I consent to have the resolving Method attempted : For, if the Patient does not apply to the Surgeon 'till the Disease is far advanced, and the Tumor is near ulcerating, it is certainly Madness then to try at resolving it, for Reasons already given in § 25, 26, 27, 28. In this Case, either the Operation ought immediately to take place, or if that is not agreed to, the most approved Method of Palliation (§ 38.) should be recommended.

§ 47. From the Light which Mr. *Freke's* Essay on the Art of Healing has thrown upon Surgery, if we may be allowed to reason from the Analogy of Diseases, I greatly suspect whether any Remedy, without the Knife, will ever be found out, either by Industry or Chance, able to encounter with an ulcerated *Cancer*. e. g. We know there are some Kinds of Ulcers, as the *Herpes Exedens*, &c. on which no external Applications, in Form either of Salves or Unguents, will be of any Service ; and are often so far from promoting a Cure, that, on the contrary, they are observed to
retard

retard it; and we can do nothing with them 'till we have destroyed their Lips, and those Parts which furnished or secreted the corroding *Ichor*.——What then are we to expect from Applications of this Kind to one of the most formidable Ulcers the human Body is obnoxious to? Where the Parts are become so morbid, as to secrete an *Ichor* equal to the strongest *Aq. fortis* for Corrosiveness? What I say must we ever expect in these Cases, from *Unguenta* and *Emplastra*, though of the most sanative Qualities?——Recourse, I fear! must always be had to the Knife in the true ulcerated *Cancer*.—A very remarkable Instance of the corrosive Quality of the Matter in a *Cancer* is related by M. *Le Dran* *. ‘ My deceased Father, says he, ‘ having cut off a carcimatous Tumor ‘ from a Lady’s Breast, in the Middle of ‘ which was a *Cystis* filled with a Fluid, I ‘ opened it; and Part of its Contents ‘ spurting out upon my Cloaths, destroy’d ‘ the Colour of them as if it had been ‘ *Aqua fortis*. Some of it flew into my ‘ Face, and I felt continual Shootings there ‘ for several Hours, though I immediately ‘ washed the Part.’——Other similar In-

* Operations in Surgery, p. 289. *Engl.* Edit.

stances are likewise to be met with in the Writings of practical Surgeons. See what our Countryman Dr. *Turner* says in his first Volume of Surgery, Page the 84th.—I have, myself, seen the Linen taken off a cancerous Ulcer quite corroded with the foul *Sanies*, appearing as if they had been dipped in *Aqua fortis*.—The same has been observed by Dr. *Van Swieten* *.

§ 48. I believe every skilful Surgeon will allow, that it is not owing to any peculiar inherent Qualities of the Gums, &c. which enter the Composition of Plaisters and Ointments in general, that make them disagree with a *Cancer*; but from the very Form of these Kinds of Applications, which, by their Adhesiveness, must unavoidably confine the corrosive *Sanies* in the Ulcer, the Consequence of which must be a further Erosion of the sound Parts, or, as it is commonly called, an Exasperation of the Disease.—And accordingly we find, by Experience, that the most simple Applications, as Pledgets of fine Lint dipped in *Aq. Calcis*, or the like, applied frequently warm, agree best with some ulcerated *Cancers*; because these sort of Dressings allow of a free Exit for the corrosive

* Page 886. Tom. 1st.

Matter. I don't say that these Kinds of Applications have no other Effect than barely giving a free Discharge to the Matter; I am sensible the Use of some sort of Lotions applied in this Manner, does, in some measure, correct the Corrosiveness of the *Ichor*; and if a regular Course of proper Diet, and the due Evacuations are submitted to (necessary in this Disease) the Patient may sometimes enjoy a tolerable easy State of Life for many Years, under this Method of Palliation; but ulcerated *Cancers* that can be thus palliated, are seldom very painful. *

§ 49. A cancerous Ulcer ought to be cleansed of its corroding *Virus* twice or thrice in a Day, if the Disease is very violent, and the Discharge great.—The best Method of doing this, is, first, to absorb the Matter of the Sore with some very soft Lint, and then fill the Cavity of the Ulcer with Pledgets of Lint, first dipped in whatever Mixture or Lotion is found most conducive to the Patient's Ease, and to correct the spreading Putrefaction of the Distemper.—For a Specimen of what may be sometimes used for that Purpose, take the following.

D 3

R *Acet.*

~~R~~ *Acet. Lithargyr. ℥ss. Aq. Rosar. alb.*
℥xii. Sacchar. saturn. ℥ss. Sal commun.
gr. viii f. lotio.

Remember always to use such Kinds of Applications as these just warm.

~~R~~ * But sometimes the Dressings thus applied are apt to grow dry, and adhere to the Sore, especially near the Edges of it; to prevent this, it will be necessary, first, to cover almost the whole Surface of the Ulcer with Pledgets of Lint spread with some of the Liniment warmed, mentioned in Page 32 of this Essay; or, in the room of that, the Pledgets may be just covered with some *Ung. Nutritum* made very soft: No more of this Ointment ought to be applied than what may just prevent the Lint sticking to the Ulcer; for all fat and very greasy Substances are highly prejudicial in ulcerated *Cancers*. — After the Pledgets spread with either of the afore-mentioned Ointments are applied, the circumjacent Parts, especially underneath the Ulcer, are to be guarded with a soft Saturnine Plaister, that they may not be corroded with the spreading *Ichor* of the *Cancer*; then the remaining Cavity of the Ulcer is to be filled up with the Lint dipped in the
pre-

preceding Lotion, or simple *Aq. Calcis*, as is found best to agree; and over these another saturnine Plaister, cut full of Holes for the free Exit of the Matter; and also over these Holes some more Pledgets of dry Lint, to suck up the *Sanies* as it ouzes through the other Dressings; and, lastly, all these Applications are to be secured from coming off, by a loose Bandage.

§ 50. A Method of dressing ulcerated *Cancers*, similar to that mentioned in the last Section, I find is recommended by *Van Swieten*, * who justly observes, That *Acetum Sal Mar. Sal Gem. &c.* greatly restrain Putrefaction; but when *Cancers* are ulcerated, every Thing acrid very much irritates them. — *Hildanus* † tells us of a Surgeon, who  having applied some *Ung. Ægyptiacum* to correct the Stench, and prevent the luxuriant *Fungus* of a *Cancer*, the Disease was by this Means so irritated, that in a little Time the whole Breast was eat away to the very Ribs. Hence it is evident, that we cannot be too cautious in our Applications to cancerous Ulcers. — Dr. *Van Swieten* says, That he once palliated an ulcerated *Cancer* in the Breast of a poor Woman,

* Page 900.

† *Observ. Chir. cent. 3. Ob. 86. pag. 267.*

~~23~~

who was otherwise healthy, by Spirit of Sea-Salt so much diluted with Water, that the Liquor being dropped into the Eye, gave no Pain: This Mixture kept it from degenerating into a worse State for a Year and a Quarter; and even the Edges of the Ulcer shewed some Signs of Suppuration, and Part of the fungous Mass cast off, leaving the Bottom clean; but afterwards the Malignity of the Disorder returned, and to apply any thing more acrid, immediately exasperated the Complaint; so that, at last, the unhappy Patient died, after she had been afflicted with an ulcerated *Cancer* two Years. ||

§ 51. From having observed that a *Cancer* may be palliated in some Constitutions, and that, in many Cases, the Extirpation of the Tumor has only freed the Patient of the Disease for a few Months, (as remarked in § 7.) many Surgeons therefore have come to a Determination of excluding the Operation in every Case, except where the *Cancer* is supposed to proceed from a Blow, or any other external Cause, when we are told we may hope for Success by it. But even in the last Case we have already shewn (in § 27. as observed in § 29.)

that we may rather hope for Success by Resolvents than when the Disease proceeded from an internal Cause: If so, we should not advise the Operation where the Resolution of the Tumor is to be expected for Reasons too obvious to mention. — However, this Circumstance depends on the Time of the Patient's applying to the Surgeon; for if the Tumor has been of long standing, and is grown large, 'tis then irresolvable, (as we have already proved in § 26, 27, 28.) and therefore in such Cases the Operation ought to take place by § 11.

§ 52. But whatever external Accident may be supposed to have given Birth to this Disease, there certainly, I am inclined to think, was some internal pre-disposing latent Cause in the Blood and Juices which conspired with the external one to occasion it: For there are some Constitutions, which, if you were to bruise, or otherwise hurt every Part of their Bodies, where this Disease is observed most frequently to fix upon, (§ 16) you could never make the thus injured Parts terminate in a *Cancer*. On the contrary, there are others so prone to this Disease, that almost the slightest Blow or Pressure shall immediately give Rise to it. — And to illustrate the Truth

of what I have asserted, I shall give the Reader the following Cases.

OBSERVATION V.

A Woman, about forty-eight Years of Age, was put violently in Wrath, and, at the same Time, received several severe Blows on her Face and left Breast by her Husband's Fist. — Some Days after this Fray she applied to me. — The Breast was then much swelled, hard and painful, more especially in the superior exterior Part of it; the whole of the Breast and Shoulder was overspread with an *Ecchymosis*: Her left Eye was likewise swelled and inflamed, and the external Parts were very black. She was on the 5th Day from the Accident bled *ad 3xvj*; the Day after she took a Purge; and her Breast was ordered to be bathed *bis in die* with a discutient Fomentation and Liniment: But she would admit of no Application to her Eye, altho' she said that it pained her, and had kept her from Sleep the preceding Night. — I saw nothing of her 'till two Months after; when she inform'd me, that her Eye and Breast grew well in a Fortnight with what I had prescribed her; only the latter had a Knot remaining in it. — I felt a small
moveable

moveable Tumor, about the Size of a Chefnut, not very hard, nor the least painful, in the exterior Part of the Breast near the Nipple.— In a Year after, this Tumor entirely subsided, without any further (either external or internal) Means being used; except her being bled once in that Time; but that was for the Relief of a Cough.

I was credibly inform'd of the ensuing Observation by Mr. *Amyas*, late an eminent Surgeon in the City of *Norwich*.

OBSERVATION VI.

A middle aged Woman had her right Breast amputated to free her from an ulcerated *Cancer*, which was supposed to have been occasioned by a Blow she received about two Years before: The Wound healed in a reasonable Time after the Operation; nevertheless, a few Years after, some cancerous Tubercles arose on the Edge of the right pectoral Muscle, which, encreasing, reached the *Axilla*; and she soon after died, suffering all the Miseries of an ulcerated *Cancer*, which no Operation could free her from.

If my Memory fails me not, this Woman was the late Mr. *John Amyas*'s Patient; and, I think, the Case happened while Mr.

Charles Maltby (now an eminent Surgeon in *Norwich*) was his Apprentice ; and with whom I was then very intimately acquainted : But I cannot be positive. — I find the Observation among some other chirurgical Remarks, made during my Apprenticeship ; but when and where the Woman lived I know not by those Notes. — I hope the Reader will pardon this Digression ; I made it to avoid that *Opprobrium* which some Authors have laboured under ; viz. of forming Histories to support any favourite Scheme or Hypothesis they had a Mind to introduce. — But I do assure my Reader, that no Body despises such mean and wicked Proceedings more than his humble Servant the Author of this Essay.

Remarks of this last Kind are indeed Arguments against the Locality of this Disease in every Case ; and therefore may be thought rather strengthening than invalidating the Objection to Extirpation : But, notwithstanding this, I hope to make it appear (from what has been said, and what we have further to add) that the Operation, in many Cases, ought to have the Preference of all other Methods of Cure. — I chose to recite the last Observation, as a Caution to the young Surgeon,

to

to be upon his Guard how he makes his Prognostic in similar Cases. We ought not peremptorily to pronounce any Patient as absolutely out of Danger of a Relapse after the Operation, tho' we may assure some of them, in a great Degree of Probability, that it never will happen so.

§ 53. I shall not take upon me to dispute the Propriety of saying a *Cancer* is a local Disease, when the Blood and Juices are only so far depraved as not to produce the Disorder 'till an Interruption is put to the Circulation in some of the glandular Parts, by a Blow, &c. — I know several Diseases formerly were imagined local, that are not thought so now; *e. g.* A spreading *Gangrene* was always esteem'd a local Disease when it succeeded any violent external Accident, and therefore Amputation was then judged sufficient to free the Patient of his Complaint; but Experience has often exposed the Fallibility of that Notion; for when the Surgeon has imagined the Seeds of the Disease were eradicated by the Operation, the Mortification has return'd again, either upon the Stump, or on some other Part of the Body, to the Destruction of the Patient, or, at least, has been the Occasion of a second Amputation. — A Mor-
tification

tification is allowed, by the best Surgeons, * to be frequently a critical Disorder, and therefore, now-a-days, the most skilful Practitioners never attempt Amputation 'till they have first mended the Habit, and Nature has pretty far advanced the Separation of the gangrened from the sound Parts.

§ 54. I must not, I doubt, carry it so far as to draw a Parallel between these Diseases : A *Cancer* is never known to cure itself, (if I may so speak) or to make a complete Separation of the diseased from the sound Parts, as a *Gangrene* does ; but yet, I must at present imagine, from what I have observed in some Patients afflicted with this Distemper, that frequently these Tumors are rather the Consequences of a peculiar Disease at first existing in the Habit than the Beginning of that Disease itself : — that is, I suppose the cancerous Poison to be *sui generis*, at first contracted, or, to speak more properly, generated in the Blood and Juices in the larger Vessels ; and while it continues in the common Road of Circulation, the Patient may seem to labour with sundry Sorts of Distempers :—

* *Vide Sharp's Critical Enquiry, &c. cap. on Amputations.*

For Instance, Women a few Years before and after the Age of fifty, are then the most subject to this Complaint; as at this Time of Life their periodical Evacuations are about going off, or are mostly over with them; and therefore their Juices often become vitiated, which at first may occasion violent Head-achs, nervous Complaints, or the Symptoms of a Rheumatism, &c. but as soon as the cancerous Poison is lodged in the Ventracles, or Receptacles of the Glands, schirrous Tumors appear, and then, sometimes, the preceding Diseases in a great Measure abate, or go off, and the unhappy Person seems to enjoy a better State of Health than for some Time past; and this Ease may continue 'till an Interruption is put to it, by the painful Approach of the *Cancer*.

I don't remember to have seen this Observation taken Notice of by any Author; but the Truth of it is so apparent in the following Case, that I can by no Means pass it by.

O B S E R V A T I O N VII.

In the Year 1745, I visited a Woman about sixty, the Mother of several Children; who had been afflicted with an ulcerated
Cancer

Cancer for several Years. — She informed me that after the *Catamenia* left her, she was ill with a rheumatic Pain in her right Shoulder, sometimes a violent Pain in her Head, attended with several nervous Complaints, and a frequent *Hæmorrhagia* at the Nose: Thus she continued during the Space of two Years, in which Time she could get little or no Relief. — At length a small Tumor arose in the exterior Side of her right Breast near the Nipple: After the Appearance of this Tumor the Pain in her Shoulder went quite off; and, as the Tumor increased, her other Complaints abated: The Bleeding at the Nose likewise quite left her. She was then advised to foment her Breast with hot Urine, to anoint it with Goose-grease, and afterwards to apply a gummous Plaister. — She followed these Directions, altho' the Pain and Size of the Tumor were thereby greatly encreased, which before were tolerable. Some Months pass'd while the Tumor was encreasing under these Applications; which, at length, possessed the whole Breast, and a Suppuration was daily expected to carry off the Disease: At last, the Tumor broke, and discharged a large Quantity of a fetid *Sanies*. — It then grew more painful, upon which a Surgeon, [my Father-in Law] was sent for,

for, who told her it was a *Cancer*, and that her Doctress had done the Breast no good by her Applications aforesaid. — He order'd the Ulcer to be daily washed with warm Milk, to cover the whole Breast with a Cabbage-leaf, and to lose Blood at proper Intervals. — By observing these Directions, and keeping to a Diet of easy Digestion, the *Cancer* was so far palliated, that notwithstanding, when I saw her, the Breast being much wasted, adhering firmly to the Ribs, and having an Ulcer the Breadth of a Crown-piece, with thick Lips, the Nipple eat away, and several schirrous Knots in the *Axilla*, yet she enjoyed a better State of Health than most People of her Age could expect, having a good Appetite, and never complained much of her Breast, unless after using too much Exercise. — She died a few Months after I saw her, of a Fever, as I was informed.

§ 55. I don't say, that 'tis impossible a *Cancer* should be produced by an external Cause only; because, I will not take upon me to determine how far our Juices may be alter'd from their original healthy State, when once stagnated in the Glands by a Blow, &c. — But this I have observed, that, in young and healthy Subjects, a *Schirrus* will remain Years without any Inconveniency,

conveniency, unless seated on a Part where it becomes troublesome by its mere Bulk or Pressure on the adjacent Parts.

A *Schirrus* arising from an external Accident, as a Bruise, &c. is not always the Fore-runner of a *Cancer*, tho' it frequently may be so; and tho' these Tumors are hard to disperse, yet this Difficulty arises not from the Tumor being of a cancerous Disposition, but because the Matter of the Swelling lies beyond, or out of the Power of the Circulation to remove. — 'Tis true, when once a *Schirrus* is formed in a glandular Part, no one can tell how it may terminate; because various Changes may arise from various Causes in the Constitution of the Person; and if the Juices should degenerate into a highly acrid, or what the Ancients termed an atrabiliary State, the *Schirrus* will be (*cæteris paribus*) more liable to become a *Cancer*.

Thus, *e. g.* Suppose a young healthy Person receives a Blow, &c. on the Breast, upon which a *Schirrus* follows, this *Schirrus* may continue in an indolent State 'till her *Menses* leave her, when it may soon after degenerate into a *Cancer*: And yet this very *Schirrus* might, before this Change happen'd in the Constitution, be of a benign

nign or mild Nature, easy to have been extirpated, and not at all cancerous.

As long as an indurated Tumor in the Breast, &c. remains quiet, it may be termed only a *Schirrus*; but as soon as it grows painful, it then becomes an occult *Cancer*.

§ 56. The Ancients, if I am not mistaken, imagined all cancerous Tumors to be derived from the *Atra-bilis*, or Melancholy of the Blood; and that which further confirmed them in this Belief, was the black and dark Appearance of the Blood found in the varicous Veins of these Tumors; and therefore, they thought the chief Intention of Cure consisted in giving such Medicines as should evacuate this Humour. — But if they had had no other Reason for their Opinion and Practice than the black Appearance of the Blood in these Vessels, they might have been greatly deceived; for, I believe, there are few Surgeons, of much Practice, who have not seen a similar Appearance of the Blood in the *Varices* attending other Tumors that arise by slow Degrees. — I have seen Blood discharged from the varicous Veins in the Legs, which has looked almost as black as Ink: And I once saw *Varices* on the Abdomen of a Woman with Child, as large as a Goose-quill. — These varicous Veins
are

are occasioned by the Impediment the Blood meets with by the subjacent Tumor ; for, when Tumors encrease very slowly, the cutaneous Vessels have Time to stretch and dilate, and the Circulation being very languid, the serous Parts of the Blood will pass on first, while the *Crassamentum* will be more difficultly moved ; so that, when these Vessels are open'd, the Blood has always a black grumous Appearance.

§ 57. But that such an atrabiliary Temperature of the Animal-juices does sometimes exist, as the Ancients have described, is confirmed by several Modern Authors ; and in particular by the ingenious Mr. Freke in his Essay on the Art of Healing.* — ‘ Having shewn, says he, that *Blood*, ‘ *Pblegm*, and *Choler*, are productive of ‘ various Diseases, it remains that I further ‘ shew, agreeable to the Opinion of the ‘ Antients, that the Blood at certain Seasons ‘ is liable to become void of all Floridness, ‘ appearing almost as black as Ink, which ‘ the Antients have termed the *Atra Bilis*, ‘ or Melancholy of the Blood. When it ‘ is in this State, carcinomatous or cancerous Diseases are said to be occasioned ‘ from thence.”

* Page 175.

He further adds, ‘ Now, since every
 ‘ Surgeon of any Degree of Practice knows,
 ‘ that the Blood, especially of elderly Wo-
 ‘ men, who want the usual Benefit of Na-
 ‘ ture, is frequently of an adust Com-
 ‘ plexion; and moreover, since it is ge-
 ‘ nerally found, that these People now
 ‘ described are most liable to cancerous
 ‘ Complaints, why may not the Antients
 ‘ be regarded in this Particular as well as
 ‘ in most others; seeing that those who
 ‘ oppose their Sentiments establish nothing
 ‘ in the Place of what they would destroy?
 ‘ I can, continues he, add one Observation
 ‘ of my own to countenance this Opinion,
 ‘ which is, that I seldom take off a can-
 ‘ cerous Breast, but I look for some black
 ‘ Spots in the Glands of it; and I scarce
 ‘ ever fail to find them appear like a
 ‘ Drop of Ink, sometimes only in one
 ‘ Gland, sometimes in divers Parts of the
 ‘ Breast.”

§ 58. Having in § 56, 57, proved that
 the Blood has sometimes the black Ap-
 pearance there described; I shall not con-
 tend with any Person whether we shall call
 it *Atra-Bilis*, or any other Name; it being
 sufficient for my present Purpose to observe,
 that when it looks of that black and dark
 Colour, it is then in a depraved State, and
 is

is much more viscid or tenacious than when it has a more florid Aspect ; at least, Experience shews it then more apt to form Obstructions in the glandular Parts ; and these Obstructions soon degenerate into *Cancers*. — The Case is, an atrabiliary Humour is a peculiar Degree of an acrimonious Lentor in the serous or lymphatic Parts of the Blood ; but while it continues in Motion, it may only slightly irritate the Nerves, and occasion various Complaints, as we have observed in § 54. but when it once is fixed in the Ventricles of the Glands, it there obtains a higher Degree of Acrimony ; which erodes the containing Solids, and creates one of the worst of Ulcers ; the most painful to bear, and the most difficult to cure.

At first the Stagnation of this Humour may only form a *Schirrus*, which may continue sometime before it proves absolutely cancerous ; but a *Schirrus* formed by the Obstruction of an atrabiliary Matter, will, *cæteris paribus*, sooner or later degenerate into a *Cancer*, according to the Degree of Acrimony the Humours have acquired before their Stagnation.

§ 59. From what has been said it appears, that a *Schirrus*, form'd by the Stagnation of an atrabiliary Humour, may degenerate

generate into a *Cancer* by Age, without any other concurring Cause to occasion it. — Thus, *e. g.* a Person, from the Suppression of a natural or præternatural Evacuation, may contract such a depraved Habit of Body as is productive of a *Cancer*; at first, only a schirrous Tumor may be form'd in some glandular Part, afterwards this Habit may be mended by proper Remedies, or, perhaps, perfectly restored to a healthy State by the Return of the usual Evacuations; yet, the *Schirrus* remains: But, in Process of Time, this *Schirrus* may become cancerous, by the Degeneracy of the stagnating Humour, into a greater Degree of Acrimony by Age only. — Hence it is evident, that such a *Cancer* is a local Disease, tho' originally derived from an internal Cause, and, under such Circumstances, may be cured by Extirpation. — But if a *Schirrus* is formed from an internal Cause, an atrabiliary or vitiated State of the Juices, and that Cause continues, no Hopes of a Cure is then to be expected by Extirpation; unless the whole Habit is restored to a sound State: But this we have already proposed, and shall speak more to anon.

§ 60. Having in § 54. observed that some People, previous to the coming on of a *Schirrus* or *Cancer*, are afflicted with
Pains,

Pains, nervous Complaints, &c. which gradually abate, or go off, as the *Cancer* approaches ; how far, therefore, Nature may be actually supposed to relieve herself by lodging the cancerous Poison in the Glands, in order for its Discharge, or whether we must attribute the Abatement and going off of these Symptoms to some other lucky Change in the Constitution, reducing these Cases to that in the last Section, I must leave to the Opinions of the Learned to positively determine. — However, that Nature does sometimes aim at relieving herself in such a Manner, I shall endeavour to prove from the following Theory and Observations.

O B S E R V A T I O N V I I I .

‘ A Lady of fifty Years of Age had a
 ‘ Cancer in her left Breast that began to
 ‘ ulcerate : She had been afflicted with it
 ‘ eight Years, and it was grown so large
 ‘ as to weigh, when separated from the
 ‘ Body, between seven and eight Pounds.
 ‘ ’Twas of a deep red Colour, hard, and
 ‘ attended with some Pain. A Gangrene
 ‘ seized it, and in two Days it separated
 ‘ and fell intirely off. The Hæmorrhage
 ‘ was so great, as to wet through the Pa-
 ‘ tient’s

' tient's Bed, and run upon the Floor.
 ' This happened in the Night, and the next
 ' Morning, when I was sent for, I found
 ' a Wound that appeared black, almost
 ' round, and about nine Inches in Diameter.
 ' The Hæmorrhage was stopped, but the
 ' Patient was so weak, that it was necessary
 ' to think rather of reviving her than
 ' having Recourse to any Evacuations. I
 ' dressed the Wound, and in four or five
 ' Days, it digested kindly, and had a very
 ' good Appearance. I continued to dress
 ' her five Weeks, in which Time the Edges
 ' of the Wound began to draw in, new
 ' Flesh granulated, and the Sore seemed
 ' ready to cicatrise intirely, being at most
 ' not above an Inch in Diameter. The
 ' whole Habit appeared to be in a good
 ' Condition, and Nature of herself seemed
 ' to have effected all that could have been
 ' done by Art ; but the Scene soon changed,
 ' for in the Middle of the Wound there
 ' arose a small hard Tumor, which gradu-
 ' ally increasing, extended to the Cicatrix ;
 ' and in less than a Month the Tumor ap-
 ' peared again almost in the same State as
 ' it was before the Gangrene. About
 ' seven or eight Months afterwards the
 ' Patient died.

‘ It is certain, continues *M. Le Dran*, *
 ‘ that Nature had, by the Gangrene, done
 ‘ all that Art could have effected by an
 ‘ Operation, and the Hæmorrhage had
 ‘ unloaded all the Vessels about the Tumor,
 ‘ of which the good Condition of the
 ‘ Wound for five Weeks was a convincing
 ‘ Proof: Yet fresh cancerous Swellings
 ‘ appear’d in the Middle of the Wound,
 ‘ when it seemed just ready to cicatrise;
 ‘ and as the local Disorder could not be
 ‘ regarded as the Cause, we must attribute
 ‘ this Relapse to the morbid Disposition
 ‘ of the Fluids in general. In these Cases
 ‘ therefore, we can only propose such a
 ‘ Regimen as may correct and soften the
 ‘ vitiated Fluids, and prevent them, if
 ‘ possible, from becoming acrid, as they
 ‘ generally do while they are confined in
 ‘ the Tumor.’

§ 61. With Submission to *M. Le Dran*,
 I am not certain whether we are to at-
 tribute the sudden Return of this Disease,
 so much to the morbid Disposition of the
 Fluids in general, as to some diseased Gland
 being left behind after the Separation of
 the Breast by the *Gangrene*. — We must

* Operations in Surgery, p. 305. *Engl. Ed.* by
Thomas Gataker.

observe, that the *Cancer* was beginning to ulcerate, before it was seized with the Mor-tification, and therefore, some of the cancerous Poison might be absorbed, and communicated to the sound Parts † beyond the *Gangrene*; which might afterwards produce those horrid Effects. I think, had the Juices in general been so much vitiated, as to have occasioned such a sudden Relapse, the Wound would not have been so near healing in that Time, as it was in this Case: He says the whole Habit appeared in a good Condition during five Weeks before the last tragick Scene happened.

However, there might be some latent Taint residing in the Juices, which conspired with the immediate diseased Part to produce this sudden Relapse; and yet Nature might be aiming at the Discharge of her Enemy. — She is not always able to make a perfect *Crisis*, in less stubborn Diseases than that we are treating of, where the Cause lies more in the common Road of the Circulation, without a great deal of Help from internal Medicine: And we don't find that she had much Assistance that Way in the Case related by *Le. Dran*.

† *Vide* § 65.

The next Case is from *Wiseman*. *

OBSERVATION IX.

‘ A Woman of about thirty-six Years of
 ‘ Age was supposed to have a *Cancer* in
 ‘ her left Breast, and had been palliated
 ‘ many Years by Sir *Fra. Pr.* One Day,
 ‘ she being at her House in the Country,
 ‘ it did break, with very exceeding Pain.
 ‘ She writ to her Physician, who sent me
 ‘ to take off the Breast. When I came, I
 ‘ saw it gangrened, and was somewhat sur-
 ‘ prized at the Novelty. The Tumor was
 ‘ round, of a very great Bulk, and move-
 ‘ able; it was gangrened by reason of the
 ‘ over-stretching of the Skin. The Mor-
 ‘ tification had eaten through the Skin the
 ‘ Compass of the Palm of a Hand. I
 ‘ cut into the Body of the Tumor, and
 ‘ found it a cancerous Flesh, and lying
 ‘ within a *Cystis*. I, supposing it a can-
 ‘ cerous Wen, (how properly I know not,
 ‘ it being the only one I ever saw) fomented
 ‘ it with Wine, dressed it up hot with
 ‘ *Unguent. Bosilicon*, and gave her an Ounce
 ‘ of *Syr. de Meconio* in a Draught of Mace-
 ‘ ale, to quiet the Pain. The next Morn-

* Chap. of the Cancer, *Ed.* in fol. p. 111.

ing I found her much afflicted, and saw
 many Cloaths wet with the Gleet, the
 Mortification was much spread in the
 Skin, and the cancerous Body cracked as
 a Pomegranate over-ripe. I considered
 the Gangrene, and supposed it would
 save me the Labour of cutting off the
 Breast, and that it would cease upon the
 pulling away of the cancerous Body.
 Upon which Consideration I pulled out
 that Part which was outermost, I believe
 the fourth Part of it; and would then
 have pulled it all out by dividing the
 Skin, but she would not permit it. I
 continued my way of dressing as before,
 stay'd at the House with her three Days,
 and dressed it twice a-Day, pulling out
 some Part of the Wen each Time. The
 Gangrene in the Skin stopped, and she
 became very easy. But perceiving she
 would not permit me to thrust out the
 remaining Wen, I desired a neighbouring
 Chirurgeon might be sent for; who being
 come, we dressed the Patient. I shewed
 him, that, by Digestion, the remaining
 fleshy Body with the *Cystis* would come
 away, and by that Time the Lips with
 the Skin would be ready to unite with
 the whole; which accordingly came to

‘ pass, and she was perfectly cured in less
‘ than six Weeks, and is yet well.’

We don’t find that any internal Medicines were given in this Case to soften, and edulcorate the Animal-juices; yet Nature, of her own Accord, freed herself of the Disease, with a little of the Surgeon’s Assistance.

§ 62. Do not the two last preceding Observations, in a great Measure, evince what I have before hinted at, (particularly in § 54, 60.) viz. That a cancerous *Gangrene* (if I may be allow’d the Expression) is, sometimes, Nature’s Endeavour to eradicate the Disease; after the vitiated Juices are lodged in a glandular Part? — That a *Gangrene*, which sometimes attends a *Cancer*, is very different from the Disease which generally goes under that Appellation, is evident from the two preceding Cases, especially from the former; for, I believe, few Patients in a common spreading Mortification, (whether occasioned by an internal or an external Cause) would have been able to have survived such an Hæmorrhage, as the Lady did, taken Notice of by *M. Le Dran*.

§ 63. That Nature does not oftener perform Cures in cancerous Cases, is not at
all

all to be wonder'd at, but the contrary, if we rightly consider the Structure of the Glands, (the Seat always of the cancerous Poison) and the Communication of their Ducts with each other, especially those of the conglomerate or compound Order. — For if we allow a *Cancer* is frequently a local Disease, and that Nature by a *Gangrene* does, sometimes, with a little Assistance, eradicate the Complaint, yet it will more frequently happen, as in the eighth Observation, that, notwithstanding this her Operation (if I may so speak) some affected Gland will be left behind, and so, in Process of Time, the *Cancer* returns. And the same happens frequently after the Extirpation of the Tumor by the Surgeon's Hand. — This is not my Opinion only, but that of one of the most eminent Surgeons now at the Head of our Art. — I will present the Reader with what he says in his own Words.

- ‘ Whatever this Poison is which occasions
- ‘ a *Cancer*, it is a very deadly one, but yet
- ‘ not so fatal as to have the Cure of it
- ‘ always despaired of: For it is frequently
- ‘ local, and then Extirpation will cure it.
- ‘ The Difficulty of its Cure proceeds from
- ‘ its Uncertainty of being come at, be-
- ‘ cause, when the Operator thinks he has

• extirpated the whole, some distant unperceiv'd Glands, from the Communication of their Ducts with the former, have render'd the Cure incomplete." *

§ 64. From what has been said in the preceding Sections, 'tis easy to perceive that I would evince cancerous Tumors being frequently the Consequence of a Disease in the lymphatic Juices of the Body, and that when these vitiated Juices are thrown on some glandular Part, Nature would relieve herself by a Separation of the diseased Part, as she does sometimes in a Mortification, were it not for some Circumstances, which almost always attend, and are peculiar to this terrible Distemper call'd a *Cancer*.

In the Disease termed a *Gangrene*, the Part destin'd to be destroy'd for the Preservation of the whole, has all Communication cut off with the vital Parts, so that Nerves, Arteries, Veins, &c. equally suffer; and the Effects produced by this Distemper, are almost consonant to those occasioned by an actual or potential Caustery. — In the last Case an *Ejchar* is produced, *i. e.* the Life of the Part is totally destroy'd as far as the Caustic penetrated; but, in a few Days afterwards, the Circulation of the

• *Freke's Essay on the Art of Healing, &c. p. 177.*
healthy

healthy Juices continuing to push strongly behind the cauterized Part, and not finding the Vessels pervious as usual, the *Eschar*, or burn'd Part, will be broke off from the sound Flesh, &c. and a laudable Suppuration will ensue. — And the same Process happens in the Separation of a Mortification.

If the Reader is desirous of having a more perfect Idea how Nature acts in these Cases, in producing *Pus Laudabile*, &c. I would advise him to a careful Perusal of Mr. *Freke's* Essay on the Art of Healing, &c. where he will find Matters relating to the present Subject clearly and ingeniously accounted for.

§ 65. But much more terrible, in my Opinion, is a *Cancer* than a *Gangrene*: For in the former, altho' the greatest Degree of Putrefaction seizes on the Parts, yet there is always a Mixture of living Vessels, Arteries, Veins, Nerves, &c. — witness the acute Pains, lamentable Hæmorrhages, and continual fetid Discharge of a corroding *Sanies* from an ulcerated *Cancer*. — In these dreadful Circumstances, therefore, as fast as Nature gets rid of one cadaverous Part, another becomes corrupted by the Communication of the diseased Part with the sound; so that 'tis impossible, Nature should free

herself of this Malady, without the Assistance of a very skilful Operator. Indeed, when a cancerous Tumor is grown extremely large, and the highest Degree of Putrefaction has attack'd it, the Communication of the vital Parts with the corrupted Tumor, will be, perhaps, nearly cut off; so that the very Weight of the Tumor may occasion its Separation from the Body, as happen'd in the 8th Observation; but then 'tis twenty to one, or more for aught I know, that some affected Gland will be left behind, which had, previous to the Separation of the putrefied Tumor, absorbed some of the cancerous Poison, by means of that very small Communication between the diseased and sound Parts: — And hence is occasioned a Relapse as before observed. — But in the Case cited from *Wiseman*, we must take Notice, that the cancerous Tumor was contained in a *Cystis*, or membranous Bag, by which Means, any Absorption of the cancerous Poison, by the Communication of living Vessels between the Tumor and the circumjacent sound Parts was intirely prevented. — In that Case therefore, the *Gangrene* was brought on by the mere Bulk of the Tumor, without being encreased by the corroding and putrefactive Quality of the cancerous Body
coming

coming into Contact with the surrounding Teguments ; unless just in that Part where the cancerous Substance forced its Way through the *Cystis*, and so might destroy the Skin by its Corrosiveness in the anterior Part of the Breast. — Hence it followed, that Nature, with a little manual Assistance, was enabled to eradicate the Complaint.

§ 66. 'Tis evident from what has been said, that a *Cancer* is one of those Diseases which, (unless a seasonable Stop is put to its Violence and Progress, by the prudent Conduct of the Physician and Surgeon,) increases and propagates itself, to the Destruction of the human Machine. On this Account, however absurd my Suggestions may be thought, by some, of cancerous Tumors being sometimes the Consequences of an Endeavour of Nature for the *Crisis* of a Disease, I am content, since, by this *Hypothesis*, I am establishing no Doctrine for a Method of Practice, but what has been proved, hitherto, the safest by Experience. — I have already (in a great Measure) shewn why Nature cannot effect a *Crisis* (§ 63, 64, 65.) without great Assistance from the Surgeon's Art. — Are not Ulcers, which sometimes attend the Legs of both old and young People, frequently reckoned critical ? And do not some Species

of them grow frequently so painful, the Matter so corrosive and fetid, that it destroys the sound Parts, sometimes, in such a Manner, as to render them little inferior to the milder Kinds of ulcerated *Cancers*? Why may we not therefore imagine some Kinds of ulcerated *Cancers* to be in that Sense critical too? I think there is a Parity of Reason for it.

Perhaps the Propriety of calling any Kind of cancerous Ulcers critical will be disputed me; I shall not contend about Words; but must observe, that there are several Instances to be found, among the Writers of practical Observations, of ulcerated *Cancers*, where the Patients have enjoy'd an easy, and otherwise, healthful State of Life to a good old Age, with little more Trouble than generally attends an Ulcer on the Leg, &c. — One Instance we have already given, in our seventh Observation; and I shall further illustrate this Matter by an Observation from *Wiseman*.

OBSERVATION X.

In speaking of the Differences of the Humour to which *Cancers* owe their Original, he observes, ‘ If the Matter be not very corrosive, their Growth is slow, and
‘ not

‘ not very painful. — These are called the
 ‘ milder Sort, of which I have had many
 ‘ under my Care ; and some of these af-
 ‘ fecting the Breast, I have palliated a long
 ‘ time under easy Remedies. Such was
 ‘ the Case of a Lady that laboured many
 ‘ Years of an ulcerated Cancer. It had
 ‘ eat deep into the Breast, and was fixed
 ‘ to the Ribs, but not with much Pain.
 ‘ In Progress of Time the Lips inverted,
 ‘ and united as it were, and lay covered
 ‘ with a crusty Scab : The Humour in the
 ‘ mean while spent itself upon the Nerves,
 ‘ and caused a Species of a *Paralysis* in
 ‘ some Parts of her Body, and the Gout
 ‘ in others. She lived long, and in her
 ‘ latter Age tolerably healthful’. See the
 second Obser. in his Chap. of a *Cancer* ; *
 which is also to our Purpose.

§ 67. The Case is, in these highly cor-
 rosive Ulcers, the Parts on which the of-
 fending Matter is thrown, become so præ-
 ternaturalized, (if I may be allowed the
 Expression) that all the benign and healthy
 Juices which arrive at the Ulcer, are con-
 verted into an ichorous or corrosive *Sanies* ;
 and this Misfortune follows, that when the
 Solids are much eat away, and the Vacuity

* Page 99. Ed. in Fol.

deep,

deep, the corrosive *Ichor* lodges in the Ulcer, and is absorbed by the Veins, and carried into the Mass of Blood, upon which the whole Habit becomes poison'd; and hence, sometimes, the worst of Consequences ensue. Hence, also, appears the Necessity of cleansing and dressing these Kind of Ulcers often, as observed in § 49.

§ 68. Whenever, therefore, a *Cancer* arises from an internal Cause, (such Symptoms having preceded, as are mention'd in § 54,) and is suffered to ulcerate, this Ulceration is rather to be deemed what Nature intends for a critical Discharge of a peculiar Disease than the very Beginning of that Disease itself, as I have before said. — 'Tis true, before the Appearance of these Tumors, if the Person is troubled with any Illness or Indisposition, (§ 54) we cannot say he is ill with a *Cancer*; because, by that Word, we understand only a Tumor of a peculiar Kind, and whimsically call'd so, from its supposed Resemblance to a Crab-fish: -- Yet this very Person may be absolutely disordered with such a vitiated Humour as may, by and by, produce this Disease. — Thus, *e. g.* The same may be said of a Person at his first Breeding the *Gout*; the Disorder which he may be troubled

troubled with preceding the Fit, we may be at a Loss what to call it; and 'till such Time as the vitiated Humour regularly fixes on the nervous Membranes, Ligaments, &c. surrounding the Joints, and occasions such a Tumor or Swelling, as particularly characterizes that Disease, we dare not affirm it the *Gout*; yet after this, we make no Scruple to say he was, previous to the Approach of the Tumor, afflicted with the gouty Matter in his Blood: And this Swelling is looked upon rather as the *Crisis* of the *Gout*, than as the Beginning of the *Gout* itself.

§ 69. It may indeed appear strange to call a *Cancer* a critical Tumor; because it never suppurates and discharges *Pus laudabile, album, leve & æquale*, only ulcerates, and then the Patient grows worse, and is thereby frequently destroy'd. On which Account, the most prudent Surgeons always endeavour to hinder the Tumor from breaking.—But the same may be said of the *Gout*.—When does the gouty Matter ever come to a laudable Suppuration? And yet, I believe, few People will dispute the painful Swellings attending this Disease being critical Efforts of Nature for the Benefit of the Constitution.—Indeed, was the gouty Matter to come so near a Suppuration,

tion, as the Matter of a *Cancer* does, that is, to occasion any large Collections of serous Juices, it would, (considering the Seat of the Disease) be little inferior to a *Cancer* itself.—When I spoke of the painful Swellings which attend the Limbs and Extremities of gouty People, being critical Tumors or Efforts of Nature for the Benefit of the Constitution; I meant only in regard to the *Gout* itself; for as to the vulgar Notion of the Gout's carrying off all other Feculencies, which otherwise might have occasioned Fevers, &c. is very absurd; and so far, in my Opinion, is this Distemper a Sign of Longevity, that, on the contrary, I am well satisfied it shortens the Lives of many.—Indeed where the Seeds of the *Gout* are in the Habit, if those Swellings or regular Fits did not happen, the Person would be much sooner destroy'd by the Redundancy of the gouty Matter:—For, as the learned Dr. *Mead* says, ‘ the *Gout* may perhaps be justly said, to be the only Cure of the Gout*.’

§ 70. I have not made a Comparison between the *Gout* and a *Cancer*, because I

* *Ut recte fortasse dici possit, solam podagram podagræ mederi. Monit. & Præcep. Med. &c. cap. de podagra, p. 197.*

think

think there is a great Affinity between them ; but only that my Meaning may be well understood, in respect to my calling the latter sometimes critical.—Those painful Swellings which we judge the *Crisis* of the *Gout*, are never found to make a perfect, or, I should rather say, a lasting Cure : they are only Means made use of by Nature to relieve for the present, or carry off the Redundancy of such Humours as would otherwise load and destroy her.—When, therefore, the Habit has accumulated too large a Quantity of acrimonious Salts, or whatever else it is which occasions the *Gout*, Nature endeavours to fling this Load of noxious Matter out of the common Road of Circulation upon the Joints : Upon whatever Joint this Matter is thrown, a painful and inflammatory Tumor ensues, by the transfusing of a very thin or subtle Part of the Fluids from the minutest Ramifications of the Nerves and Arteries ; in a little Time the Swelling subsides, Part of the extravasated Humor being perspired thro' the Pores of the Skin, and Part absorbed by the Veins, &c.—But the thickest of it lodges in the Membranes of the Joints and there concretes ; and every Fit adding fresh Matter, by Degrees, the Joints become stuffed with hard Masses called Chalk-stones,

stones, by which their proper Motions and Actions are destroyed *.

And, indeed, upon due Examination, it will be found, that something similar to what happens in the Joints of gouty People, does, also, sometimes happen in the Glands, in the Formation of a *schirro-cancerous* Tumor: But this will be better understood, by the young Surgeon, by giving a Description of the Structure of the Glands.

§ 7th. It is very well known, that the Arteries, in their ultimate Ramifications, before they pass into their returning Veins, send out a great Number of extremely small *Tubuli*; these draw off from the Blood certain Portions of its *Serum*, while the Remainder is forced through the Extremities of the Arteries, and returned by the Veins: Now these minute *Tubuli*, by means of which the Blood is drained of some of its *Serum*, before it does pass through the capillary ~~or hairy~~ Arteries, are called the secretory Ducts, or glandulous Strainers. The ultimate Branches of an Artery, with their secretory Ducts, their correspondent Ramifications of the Nerves (which always accompany them) and their returning Veins,

* Dr. Mead's *Monit. & Præcep. Med. &c. cap. de Pedagra*, p. 199.

wound up, as it were, into a little Ball together, and included within a common Membrane, constitute that Body called a Gland; and, by Anatomists, for Distinction sake, a conglobate or simple Gland.

Now, if any Number of these conglobate or simple Glands be united together, by extreme small transverse Fibres, and included again within a common Membrane, they are then called a conglomerate or compound Gland.

§ 72. A conglobate or simple Gland forms a hollow Receptacle, into the Cavity of which, the minute *Tubuli*, (called the secretory Ducts, which immediately arise from the last Ramifications of the Artery) open and deposite a Liquor, which being collected by the excretory Duct or Emissary of the Gland, it passes off from the Cavity, and serves for the several Uses of the animal Oeconomy.

But a conglomerate or compound Gland, being a Congeries or Assemblage of conglobate or simple Glands, (as before observed) has all the excretory Ducts of the latter terminate in one larger Duct, thro' which the Liquor of all the simple Glands pass for particular Uses. Such are the salival and parotid Glands; the latter of which have their excretory Ducts pass
over

over the *Masseteres* through the *Buccinatores* into the Mouth.

§ 73. Mr. *Chefelden* says, ‘ each Breast
‘ is a conglomerate Gland to separate
‘ Milk with its excretory Ducts; which
‘ are capable of very great Distention,
‘ tending towards the Nipple, which as
‘ they approach, they unite, and make
‘ but a few Ducts at their Exit.’ *Ana-*
tomy 6th Edit. Page 139.

But the famous ‘ *Ruyfch* * has denied
‘ the Breasts to be glandular, nevertheless
‘ such

* *Epist. Problem. xv. pag. 10, &c. & alibi pluribus in locis.* ‘ *Quamvis enim mammas glandulosas esse nega-*
‘ *verit Ruyfchius; talis tamen illarum fabrica est, at-*
‘ *que illa lactis a sanguine secreti indoles, ut in mammis*
‘ *facile schirri nasci possint: quam rem etiam observa-*
‘ *tiones quotidianæ confirmant.—Ex Arteriis enim, nullis*
‘ *folliculis interpositis, emissi tubuli lactiferi cum vicinis*
‘ *cœunt in majores ramulos, tandemque vasa lactifera*
‘ *majora faciunt; quæ iterum angustantur, & minimis*
‘ *fistulis in papilla exeunt. Cum autem lac in mammis*
‘ *collectum, lactifera vasa distendens, possit redire iterum*
‘ *in vasa, unde exiverat, & ne guttula quidem lactis*
‘ *per papillam exeunte, turgidissima mamma aliquando*
‘ *depleatur satis cito & subsidat; patet tubulos lacteos*
‘ *continuari arteriis ipsis, nullosque folliculos inter hos &*
‘ *illas interponi. Verum lac, ex sua natura in coagulum*
‘ *facile tendens, stagnans in vasis lactiferis dilatatis, in*
‘ *colostrum & serum abit: hoc tenuius per papillæ aper-*
‘ *turas dilabi, vel facile redire in sanguinem potest;*
‘ *colostrum vero sero suo orbem hærebit immobile in vasis*
‘ *lactiferis, magisque exsiccatum tandem in schirrum, vix*
‘ *re-*

‘ such is their Fabric, and such is the Na-
 ‘ ture of the Milk secreted from the Blood,
 ‘ that *Schirri* are very easily formed in
 ‘ them ; as is daily confirmed by Observa-
 ‘ tion. For the lactiferous *Tubuli* arising
 ‘ from the Arteries, unite together into
 ‘ larger Branches, without the Interposi-
 ‘ tion of any Follicles, and at length they
 ‘ make large lactiferous Vessels, which a-
 ‘ gain are contracted, and at last terminate
 ‘ in very small Ducts in the Nipple.—But
 ‘ since the Milk collected in the Breasts,
 ‘ and distending the lactiferous Vessels,
 ‘ may return again into the Vessels from
 ‘ whence it was derived, the most turgid
 ‘ Breast is therefore sometimes soon emptied
 ‘ and subsided, without the least Drop of
 ‘ Milk being discharged by the Nipple ;
 ‘ whence it is evident that the lactiferous

‘ *resolvendum sæpe, abit. Cumque in glandulis proprie*
 ‘ *dictis natus schirrus ideo sæpe ad optima remedia rebellis*
 ‘ *erat, quia vitalium humorum impetus & efficacia in*
 ‘ *coagulatum succum, glandulæ cavo contentum, nullum*
 ‘ *fere effectum facere poterat ; idem & in mammis obti-*
 ‘ *nebit. Majores enim tubuli lactei respondent cavis*
 ‘ *glandularum colligentibus secretum humorem ; angusta*
 ‘ *eorundem extrema, in papilla hiantia, similem usum*
 ‘ *habent ac glandularum emissaria, collectum in cavo hu-*
 ‘ *morem deducunt. Patet ergo ratio, quare in mammis,*
 ‘ *licet proprie loquendo glandulosæ non fuerint, schirri*
 ‘ *tamen nasci possint.*

‘ Tubes

‘ Tubes are continuous with the Arteries
 ‘ themselves, and that there are no Folli-
 ‘ cles, or little Bags, interposed between
 ‘ them.

‘ But Milk being of its own Nature very
 ‘ subject to coagulate, will, by stagnating
 ‘ in the dilated lactiferous Vessels, separate
 ‘ into *Serum*, and a grosser Substance; but
 ‘ this thinner Part will escape through the
 ‘ small Orifices of the Nipple; or else easily
 ‘ return back into the Blood; but the thick
 ‘ or grosser Substance, being deprived of
 ‘ its fluid or serous Part, will stick im-
 ‘ moveable in the lactiferous Vessels; and
 ‘ at length growing more dry, will form
 ‘ an almost irresolvable *Schirrus*. And as
 ‘ in the Glands, properly so called, a
 ‘ *Schirrus* so often proves inflexible to the
 ‘ best Remedies, because the Impulse or
 ‘ Efficacy of the vital Humours has scarce
 ‘ any Influence on the concreted Juice con-
 ‘ fined in the Cavity of the Gland (see
 ‘ § 55.) the same Thing will also take place
 ‘ in the Breasts. For the larger lactiferous
 ‘ *Tubuli* will correspond to the Cells or
 ‘ Receptacles of the Glands, collecting the
 ‘ secreted Humour; while their narrow
 ‘ Extremities opening through the Nipple,
 ‘ have Uses similar to the Emissaries of the
 ‘ Glands, discharging the Humour col-
 ‘ lected

‘lected in their Cells. The Reason is
 ‘therefore evident, why *Schirri* may arise
 ‘in the Breasts, altho’, properly speaking,
 ‘they are not glandular.’ *

§ 74. Having previously consider’d and demonstrated the Structure of the Glands, at least sufficient for our present Purpose, it will be easy to perceive how an Humour separated by the secretory Vessels of a Gland, and lodged in its Cavity, may, by coagulating, or inspissating, become so indurated, as to be render’d incapable of passing out of the Receptacle of the Gland, by the excretory Duct; and the Matter thus detained, may give Rise to a *Cancer*. — Any Cause therefore which obstructs the excretory Duct of a Gland, whether conglobate or conglomerate, in such a Manner, that the contained secreted Matter in the Receptacle or Receptacles of it cannot be discharged, the Body of the Gland will become distended by the confined Fluid, while the thinner Parts of that Fluid will be absorbed by the Veins, or find a Passage through the obstructed excretory Vessel, and that which is more gross being left behind, will, by Degrees, indurate, and fresh Matter

* Gerad. Van Swieten, *M. D. Commentar, in Herm. Boerhaave Aphorismos*, p. 848, &c.

being

being separated from the Blood by the secretory Vessels or Ducts, and accumulated in the Gland, the Tumor will encrease, and by its Pressure on the Nerves in the Gland, an indolent, hard, or schirrous Tumor will be formed.

§ 75. Perhaps it may be said, that it appears inconsistent with the wise Oeconomy of Nature, to fix upon such an intricate Texture of Vessels as the Glands are, for the critical Discharge of any morbid Matter. — But for that very End or Purpose, were they, perhaps, principally form'd: For they not only seern Fluids, which are return'd by particular Veins to cool and dilute the common Mass of Blood, in order the better to keep on the wonderful Circulation, but they also by their peculiar vascular Texture, entangle, as it were, and very frequently carry off such Matter, as would otherwise be prejudicial to the Constitution: and this not only in Sickness but in Health. — How often does Nature deposite a Matter in the inguinal and axillary Glands, to be critically discharged for the Benefit of the Constitution? If this Matter is too gross to pass these Strainers, a Tumor will arise, which will be more or less difficult to cure, according to the Nature of the obstructing Matter, and the Series of Vessels

Vessels in which it is lodged. — Thus, if the Obstructions are formed in that Order of Vessels destin'd to carry the red Blood, from which the serous and lymphatic Juices are immediately secerned, there may be Hopes of the Tumor terminating in an Abscess by a mild Suppuration ; but if the Matter is of such a Nature, as to have actually passed into the next Order of Vessels, whose Office is to separate the lymphatic Humours from the red Blood, the Obstructions will be much more difficultly removed, as being too far from the impulsive Force of the Circulation. — But if the obstructing Matter has not been long confined, and the Vessels not ruptured, or lost their elastic Forces, (§ 26, 27, 28.) there may be Hopes of removing the Obstruction by the Help of proper Remedies. — But at the Time we are attempting to resolve these Obstructions by external Applications, we ought carefully to exhibit such gentle Purgatives as may carry out of the Habit the Matter of the Resolution.

§ 76. To what Degree of Putrefaction the healthy or sound Juices of our Bodies may degenerate into, by a long Stagnation in the Glands, assisted by the natural Animal Heat, I will not take upon me to determine, (as I said before, § 55.) But it

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ap-

appears to me, that the Mixture of different Juices, which sometimes fall accidentally into the Receptacles of the Glands, when weakened by any external Cause, may greatly contribute to the different Degrees of Putrefaction and Corrosiveness of the Matter found in those tumified Glands call'd *Cancers*.

It is well known that the largest of the secretory Ducts of a Gland in a natural State, is smaller than the smallest of the capillary Arteries; for the least of the evanescent Arteries can admit the red Blood-globules, which the largest of the glandular secretory Vessels cannot in a sound or natural State.— Let us then suppose a Gland has suffered some external Violence, by a Blow, or the like, so that its whole vascular Texture becomes obstructed, by which Means the secerning Organs may be so much enlarged, as to admit some Particles of the Animal Fluids to pass into the Gland, as ought to have been sent off another Way: By this we may easily conceive, that a great Difference may arise in the Nature of these glandular Tumors. And this will more evidently appear by considering the Composition of the Blood.

§ 77. A chymical *Analysis* of the Blood informs us, that it contains much *Oil*, *Salt*,
Sul-

Sulphur, &c. hence it is term'd a *Heterogeneous* Fluid, the compounding Parts of which are of different Denfities. — For a red Blood-globule is fix ferous Ones in Conjunction; and a ferous Globule is composed of fix lymphatic Ones, which may be divided and sub-divided, 'till they become undiscernable by the best *Microscopes*, and *ad infinitum*. — Some of these Globules are more firmly, and intimately blended together than others, and their Cohesions more strong; as that Order of Globules which compose the red Part of the Blood more strongly cohere than the next Order, and so on. — The chymical Art has likewise further inform'd us, that the Lymph, which commonly passes easily thro' the Glands, contains but very little *Oil*, *Salts*, &c. whereas that Part of the *Serum*, which more strongly and intimately coheres with the red Globules, is plentifully saturated with *Oils* and *Salts*. — Hence it may follow, that if the secretory Organs of a Gland, by any Cause, are too much enlarged, there will ensue an *Error Loci* of the Fluids: *viz.* Some of the grosser Parts of the *Serum*, and the red Blood, will pass with the Lymph into the Gland, and there stagnating, may grow highly corrosive, and irritate the Nerves, causing great Pains; and fresh

Matter being pushed upon the diseased Part by the Force of the Circulation, the fine Vessels will be ruptured, and a large Collection of bloody lymphatic Juices will soon be accumulated, which, being discharged, will be salt to the Taste, &c. as observed in § 32. Case the Second.

But it would be tedious to endeavour to account for all the Differences which might, and do frequently happen in the Formation of schirrous and cancerous Tumors. Besides, it requires a Person much better skilled in *Physiology* than I pretend to be, to do this in a masterly and intelligible Manner. — Let it suffice then to say, that schirrous and cancerous Tumors, arising from external Causes, may differ greatly, according to what Part of the Animal-juices is lodged in the Glands.

§ 78. To return again to our Proposition, which is to shew, that cancerous Tumors, sometimes, arising from an internal Cause, should be rather deem'd Swellings, occasioned by Nature's throwing some vitiated Matter upon the Glands, to be critically discharged, for the Cure of a peculiar Disease, than the very Beginning of that Disease, as observed before in § 54.

I know cancerous Tumors have been generally look'd upon as occasion'd entirely
by

by the Stagnation of the Fluids in the Glands; which, by Time, contracting a highly corrosive and putrefactive Quality, give Rise to those peculiar Kinds of Tumors or Ulcers, call'd *Cancers*. — This, indeed, may be sometimes the Case, and when it is so, it will generally follow, that an early Extirpation of the Tumor, will mostly prove a radical Cure. — I say an early Extirpation, because, if any Collections of the cancerous Matter is formed in the Tumor before Extirpation, the neighboring Parts, or, perhaps, the whole Habit may become diseased, by some of the Matter being absorbed, and so propagated, as it were by Inoculation. (§ 67.) But Experience shews (as is abundantly confirm'd by the Observations of practical Authors) that an early Extirpation of a Schirro-cancerous Tumor has been generally far from proving a radical Cure; (as observed in § 30.) Hence we may conclude, that the Supposition of the long Continuance of a *Schirro-cancerous* Tumor being apt to infect the Mass of Blood, and to render the Operation fruitless is erroneous: Unless, as I said before, it is let remain till there are any Collections of Matter formed in the Tumor, and is suffer'd

to ulcerate. Mr. *Sharp* * positively says, That the mere Residence of a *Schirrus* for a length of Time, is not of itself a sufficient Motive for the Operation; and that he is so far from judging unfavourably of a *Cancer* under this Circumstance, that, he thinks, we cannot have better Evidence of its Locality, than the little Injury it has already done to the Constitution.

Had the cancerous Poison always fix'd on the Wound after the Operation, the Disease might have been supposed to have been exasperated by it, or the succeeding Dressings, &c. from some actually affected Gland being left behind; or, if the Wound had mostly been very difficult of Cure, it might have been thought owing to the whole Mass of Blood being in a morbid or vitiated State in *Cancers* arising from an internal Cause. — But this is seldom the Case; for the Wound frequently heals in a reasonable Time after the Operation, judiciously perform'd; (see § 38. page 41.) and yet the *Cancer* shall soon after fall on some remote Part of the Body. — From what Cause can this happen? The Operation is never perform'd, by a skilful Surgeon, when there are any Symptoms of *Cancers*

* Critical Enquiry, &c. p. 106.

being form'd in Parts of the Body where the Extirpation of some of them would be impracticable. — For what would it avail to free the Patient of one Tumor, while others of the same Kind remain'd? — But *Cancers* have been very often known to return after Amputation, on Parts of the Body where there was not the least Reason to suspect their appearing while the extirpated Tumor was in Being. — Do not these Remarks argue greatly in favour of what I would evince, *viz.* That Nature having fixed on the extirpated Part for the Lodgement of the vitiated Matter, and being, by the Operation, deprived of that, she soon after fixes on some other glandular Part for the like Intention, *i. e.* in order for its Discharge? — 'Tis true, she generally fixes on the Parts adjacent to where the Tumor was taken away, in a Relapse, (§ 8.) but this Observation, I presume, is likewise in my Favour; for the vitiated Matter being wont to be derived this Way, it will follow, that it will more frequently fix again on a Part near where the former Tumor was, than on a remote Part. — But what further confirms me in this Opinion, is, that there are a greater Number of Histories of *Cancers* being cured without Relapses, amongst such as were of several

Which Years standing, than amongst those who were reduced to the Operation very soon after their Appearance *. — Does not this appear as if Nature, in the former Cases, had deposited all the noxious atrabiliary Matter on the Glands in one Part; while in the latter the Operation was perform'd before she could compleat such a Deposition? — However, I will not pretend to determine in this Case. — I have been the longer on this Head, because it is of the utmost Importance to know when it is best to operate; and if in some Particulars my Theory be erroneous, as the whole of it tends, I hope, towards guiding us more safely in Extirpation, I flatter myself the Candid will excuse me.

§ 79. It is observed by practical Authors †, ‘ That the vitiated Humours
 ‘ which occasion Head-achs, Rheumatisms,
 ‘ or habitual and periodical Evacuations,
 ‘ sometimes change their Course from
 ‘ Causes unknown, and passing to the
 ‘ Glands, produce an Obstruction in them.
 ‘ All these Obstructions form at first no
 ‘ more than schirrous Swellings, but they
 ‘ may afterwards degenerate into Carci-

* Sharp's Critical Enquiry, &c. p. 106.

† Le Dran's Operat. p. 290.

' nomas.' — This, indeed, is most frequently the Case, but not always ; for sometimes a *Cancer* does arise, without having had any schirrous Tumor preceding it. — The Truth of this is confirm'd by the celebrated *Van Swieten* *.

OBSERVATION XI.

I saw, says he, a *Fungus* of a cancerous Nature that grew out of the great Toe, which came by the imprudent cutting off the Nail by a Surgeon in a Country-woman, having hurt that tender nervous Pulp which is seated under it ; while the same Surgeon endeavour'd to consume this *Fungus*, by corroding Applications, the Irritation was so great, as turned it into a horrid *Cancer*, whence the Part was afterwards obliged to be extirpated.

He further adds, That it is necessary both for the Surgeon and Physician, to be acquainted, that a *Cancer* may be often feared, although no *Schirrus* has preceded it.

§ 80. When the vitiated Humours mentioned in § 79. are translated to the Glands, I look upon that Translation as an Endeavour of Nature for the critical Discharge.

* Page 879. Tom. 1st.

of them : And why in such Cases she cannot effect this; we have already endeavour'd to explain in § 63, 64, 65. — But there is another Observation I have to make on this Head.— And here it will be necessary, first, to say, that if my Reader is not acquainted with Mr. *Freke's* Theory concerning the Formation of *Pus Laudabile*, &c. he would do well to read his Book, (entitled, *An Essay on the Art of Healing*, &c.) for the better understanding this Discourse.

§ 81. We must observe, that where there are no ungovernable Fungus's attending cancerous Ulcers, yet they will not admit of being deterged by any Digestives ; and every one skilled in Surgery knows, that an Ulcer, with a putrid Bottom, can generate no sound healing Flesh.

To illustrate this Matter, suppose a Wound or Ulcer with fungous Flesh ; if you reduce the *Fungus* with the *Lapis Vitriol.* a thin Gleet will ensue ; and if a large Quantity of it is applied, an *Eschar* will be formed by the Solution of the vitriolic Salts, and the Wound will look crude : But if you destroy the *Fungus* by the *Mercur. præcipitatus ruber*, a Slough indeed or *Eschar* is created ; but yet you will have a Matter thicker than from common

mon Wounds that suppurate well. — This is a common Observation, but I never saw it reasonably accounted for, 'till I saw Mr. Freke's Essay, &c. — While a Wound discharges a very thin watery *Sanies*, no sound Granulations of Flesh can arise; and though Wounds and Ulcers in any Constitution may grow fungous, and want to be reduced, yet, where there is no great Disposition to heal, it is a Matter of more Consequence than some young Surgeons may imagine, whether the *Fungus* is destroy'd by the *Lap. Vitriol.* or *Mercur. præcip.* Any Cause, therefore, that will bring a Wound, or Ulcer, into such Circumstances as a Solution of the *Vitriol* would do, cannot heal. — Was there to an Ulcer, or even to a common Wound, a daily Application of a pretty strong Escharotic, that would act in the same Manner as the *Lap. Vitriol.* does, almost the same *Phænomena* would be produced as are observed in cancerous Ulcers, *viz.* The Part would grow painful, large Sloughs would be created, and a Discharge of a bloody and fetid Gleet would ensue; especially if the Matter of the Sore did not find a ready Exit. — For what smells worse than the extravasated bloody Juices of the Animal Body, when confined a Day or two in their natural Heat? Witness the

first Removal of the Dressings after an Amputation. — Thus, by Degrees, the fleshy Parts, and neighbouring principal Rivulets of Life, [the larger Blood-Vessels,] being eroded and destroyed, the Patient at last must sink into the Jaws of Death, by the repeated Discharges of the purple Stream. — Thus, I say, such terrible Symptoms might be brought on, and such Consequences might ensue, by the continual Application of a corrosive Medicine, as are known frequently to happen in a *Cancer*. — It avails not, therefore, from what Cause such a corroding Matter is produced, whether by the natural Putrefaction of the Animal Juices, lodged in the Glands, peculiar in this Disease, or by a Medicine applied by Art; if their Actions on the human Body are alike, so will be their Effects. — In either Case then, it will be equally impossible (supposing the Constitution otherwise perfectly sound) that Nature can produce any good Flesh, or advance one Step towards healing; on the contrary, the Body must inevitably be destroy'd, if the Distemper is very violent; unless a Stop is put to it by Art. — Hence it follows, that this Theory leads us immediately in search of such a Remedy as may act without Pain, correct, and, at the same Time, give a
free

free Discharge to the cancerous Matter, producing Effects somewhat similar to *Mercur. præcip.* i. e. It ought to be able to reduce the cancerous *Fungi*, and otherwise alter the vitiated State of this sordid Ulcer; leaving the Bottom of it capable of discharging good *Pus*; the Consequence of which would soon be a healing State.

I have, for a long Time past, employ'd all Opportunities in search of such a Treasure; but alas! hitherto my Attempts have proved abortive; nothing has occur'd worth communicating to the Public. — If I should succeed the least in my Endeavours, (*Dii cæptis adspirare meis*) and this Essay meets with a favourable Reception, I will faithfully make known my Success. — In the mean Time, as I think the Foundation I would build upon is just, I hope those who have superior Abilities, and greater Opportunities than I pretend to, will not be wanting in their Endeavours for such a desirable Discovery. — 'Tis true, some cancerous Tumors are extremely large, and the *Fungi* attending them enormous; so that, as I said before, § 46. perhaps no Remedy without the Knife will be able to subdue them; but notwithstanding, if such a Remedy could be luckily hit upon, as I have just now mentioned, what salutary Ef-

Effects might arise from the Application of it after the Operation !

§ 82. In schirro-cancerous Tumors arising from an internal Cause, such Symptoms having preceded, as are enumerated in § 54, 79, we are not immediately to proceed to the Operation, but first endeavour, as much as possible, to bring the Body into a sound and healthful State.

This is the illustrious *Boerhaave's* Opinion, who in his five hundred and fifth Aphorism, says, * ‘ The Cause of a *Cancer* ‘ should be removed together with it, or ‘ rather before the Tumor is extirpated. ‘ But unless the diseased Part can be entirely extirpated, it ought to be let ‘ alone.’

As to what respects the latter Part of this Aphorism, is already observed in § 35 of this Essay.

The Cause of a *Cancer* will be best removed by such a Regimen and Remedies as are hinted at in § 38 ; but more fully to be spoke to in the Sequel of this Discourse.

§ 83. A cancerous Tumor suddenly arising from an internal Cause, and encreasing

* *Causa canceri tollenda cum cancro, vel antequam tollatur ille.*

Nisi integre auferri queat, relinquendus est.

fast, will be much more difficult of Cure than a *Cancer* from an internal Cause, which encreasing slowly, may give Time to have the Habit mended previous to the Operation. — But in the former Case, if the Tumor is tending to ulcerate, in spite of our best Endeavours to prevent it, we should advise the Operation, provided the Tumor is moveable, &c. by § 35. — A few Days after the Operation, the Patient ought to be put into a spitting Course, to be encreased to such a Quantity *per Diem*, and to be continued such a length of Time as the Circumstances of the Disease shall demand, and the Patient's Strength of Constitution will allow: Then complete the Cure with a strong Decoction of *Lign. Guaiac.* The Person must afterwards religiously abstain from all aromatized, smoked, pickled, soured, or salted Meats, and all Kinds of spirituous Liquors. — In short, such a Diet is indicated here, as is proper for a Person that has a *Cancer* continuing. — A great Part of his Food ought to be of Milk and some Kinds of Vegetables. — A strict Regard ought to be had to all the Non-Naturals; and if the Patient has lived much in the modern Way of Luxury, these Changes in Diet, &c. should not be made all at once; because, as the
very

very learned Dr. *Mead* * observes, all sudden Changes are dangerous, and therefore every Alteration in the Way of living ought to be made by Degrees.

§ 84. My Reader may see, that to prevent a Relapse, I lay a chief Stress on the Regimen and Method of living to be observed after the Operation; which if duly persevered in, will, not only in this Distemper, but in many others, work Wonders.

But it is not a few Weeks, nay, I had almost said Years, that will answer this Purpose. — I don't know whether there is an absolute Necessity for the Patient's continuing in this abstemious Way of Living to his Life's End; but, if he does, he will stand the best Chance of keeping off the Disease: And sure Health obtained at the easy Rate of restraining the Palate, is worth the Purchasing. —

Besides the Diet above-mention'd, the Patient ought to lose Blood, and take gentle Purgatives, at proper Intervals; especially at both Spring and Fall.

I could quote many Authors in support of this Doctrine, did I think it needed any; but the Benefit which must accrue

* *Monit. & Præcep. Med. de Vitæ Regimine.*

from.

from such a Method is so obvious, that I hope what I have said will have Weight enough to have it put in Practice. — But in these Cases, as well as in many others, there is no prescribing set Rules, without some Exceptions. — 'Tis certain the Patient's Constitution, and many other Circumstances, ought to direct us how to act.

To say that few Patients will be subject to the Method prescribed after the Operation, is nothing to the Purpose: If the Patient will not be ruled, and the Disorder returns, neither the Surgeon nor Physician ought to be blamed: But a Prognostication of the Consequences which may ensue from Errors of this Kind, ought to be duly made before the Operation is attempted.

OBSERVATION XII.

A middle aged Woman, during Gestation with her first Child, complained frequently of darting Pains in her right Breast; after she had gone about half her Reckoning, a small unequal Knot, of the Size of a common Filberd, was discovered in the inferior Part of it. — She was bled, but had nothing further done 'till after her Delivery. In the Time of her Lying-in, the
Lochia

Lochia were discharged in a moderate Quantity 'till the 4th Day, when they entirely disappeared, and her Breasts became turgid with Milk. — The Knot in the right Breast enlarged considerably, grew more painful at Times; and the exterior Part of the Breast was swelled, red, and inflamed. — A Woman, who was judged to have some Skill in Surgery, applied a Cataplasm of Mallows and Milk to the whole Breast, and brought the inflamed Part to Suppuration. The Abscess broke of itself, and discharged near a Pint of a thinnish, green coloured, ill-digested Matter. — This Breast never was drawn, but the Child sucked heartily of the other. — A Month after she was brought to Bed, on *October* 24, 1746, I was desired to attend her. — I found her sitting in a Chair, much dejected with the Supposition that her Breast must be amputated. She had a small equal Pulse, her Skin felt dry, the Tongue was white and moist, she was thirsty, but had no Appetite to any solid Food, her chief Diet being thin Milk-broth. — I removed a great many linen Cloths, wet with a thin Gleet, and a Pledget of black *Basilicon* from an Ulcer on the exterior Part of the Breast, the Orifice of which would admit three or four Fingers :
There

There were several other Holes, which the Matter had made thro' the Skin, that communicated with each other, and with the large one above. — I pass'd my Probe into a *Sinus*, that went from the lowest of the small Holes or Orifices to the inferior interior Part of the Breast, under a hard unequal Tumor, the Bigness of a Pigeon's Egg, which felt loose, and as if partly separated from the Breast by the Suppuration. All the Skin on the under Side of the Breast was flaccid, like an empty Bag; had a mortified Appearance, and, on Pressure, about two Ounces of a fetid watry *Sanies* was discharged thro' the small Orifices in the Skin. — Some of the perfectly mortified *Cutis* was cut off with my Scissars, without the Loss of any Blood, by which Means, all the small Holes were reduced to one. — The Flesh underneath looked of a darkish red Colour. — The Lips of the large superior Ulcer, were thick, red, and inflamed. The Breast seemed to have no Milk in it, was somewhat less than the other, and the superior Part of it was of its natural Complexion.

The Teguments on the Tumor were of the natural Colour of the sound Skin, but had several small varicous Veins, which, she said, had been a great deal larger, but since

since the Suppuration were much subsided.
— She complained of frequent pricking Pains in the Tumor, which, for some Nights past, had kept her from sleeping.

The ulcerated Parts were fomented with a strong Infusion of *Fol. Absinth. com. Flor. Chamæmeli, & Centaur. min.* in *Aq. bullient.*

— I dress'd them up with soft Dossils of Lint dipt in *Liniment. Arcaei part. ij. Balsam. Capivi & Tereb. Venet. āā part. j.* gently melted together; and over all a Cataplasm made with a strong Decoction of *Lig. Guaic. ** and Oat-meal-flour, with a small Quantity of *Acet. Vini alb.* and *Ol. Rosar.*

— But before the Application of the Poul-tice, the Tumor, in the interior Part of the Breast, was covered with *Ung. de Minio camphor.* spread upon fine Cloth.

An emollient Clyster was injected, on account of her not having had a Stool for a Week past; and she took a few Spoonfuls of a cordial Julep *4ta quaque horâ.*

The 25th, in the Morning she thought herself better, the Breast being a little easier: The Clyster gave her two Motions in the Night.

The 26th and 27th she continued much the same; about two Ounces of a watry

* *Vide Med. Essays, Vol. v. Art. ix.*

Sanies being squeezed out from the Breast at every Dressing.

On the 28th there was little Alteration : But her left Breast had been very uneasy all the last Night ; it looked red, and inflamed in the inferior interior Part ; and the next Day, after the Application of a suppurative Cataplasm, there appeared a pretty large circumscribed Tumor, which, in a few Days, came to Suppuration ; when, with my *Lancet*, I discharged about three Ounces of *Pus laudabile*. — The Milk daily lessening, she was obliged to wean the Child, and the Breast was healed in ten Days after, by the ordinary Means used in such Cases.

The same Method of Dressing and Applications to the right Breast, were continued 'till the 31st, when the Lips of the superior Ulcer were grown thinner, less inflamed, and discharged good Matter : The Skin on the inferior Ulcer, from whence I had cut off that which was mortified, began likewise to shew Signs of Digestion, by separating all the diseased Part from the sound, which looked like an *Efchar*, made with a *Cautic*, quite round the Sore.

There was daily an Ounce of ichorous Matter pressed out of the *Sinus*, that ran under the schirrous Knot.

The

The Use of the same Dressings was continued 'till the 5th of *November*, when the Cataplasm was omitted; both Sores discharging good *Pus*; but an ill-condition'd Matter still flow'd from the *Sinus* upon Pressure.

The *Varices* in the Teguments were almost gone, but the Tumor still retained its Size and Hardness, tho' it was not quite so painful.

Her Thirst was abated, Tongue clean, the Urine deposited a laudable Sediment; which it had not done before; having thro' the Course of the Distemper been turbid; her Pulse was more full and free; but the Costiveness still remaining, I order'd her daily to take a Knife's Point-full of a laxative Electuary.

Her Diet was all along small Chicken and Milk-Broth, with a moderate Use of White-Wine Whey. — Her Fears still continuing concerning what might be the Consequence of the schirrous Knot after the Breast should be healed; I propos'd the Extirpation of the Tumor, which she agreed to; and according, the next Morning, I dissected it out, with a small Portion of the circumjacent sound Flesh which adhered to the Tumor, lest I should leave any diseased Gland or Part behind, which might
be

be the Occasion of future Trouble. The Branch of an Artery bled pretty freely, but was stopp'd with a Ligature: The Wound was dress'd with dry Lint, and a Pledget of the aforesaid Digestive; and over these a Plaister of *Ung. de Minio camphor.* which were secured from coming off by a moderate loose Bandage. By means of this Operation the *Sinus*, from whence the *Sanies* daily issued, was laid open, so that I dress'd to the Bottom of it. *November* the 10th the Applications were removed, and the Wound appeared with a tolerable Aspect. It was fomented, and dress'd with Dossils of Lint dipt in the same soft Digestive warm'd over the Fire, with the Addition of a little *Mercur. præcip. rub.* on Account of the Bottom of the Wound looking a little fordid: The other Sores began to incarn apace.

The 11th and 12th there was little Alteration: The Dressings the same.

The 13th the Wound digested good Matter, and was grown clean: It was dress'd with dry Lint; the rest as before.

At proper Intervals she took, *ad horam somni*, Pills of *Mercur. dulcis*, which were work'd off the following Mornings with lenient Cathartics.

The

The same Method of Dressing was continued 'till the 30th of *December* following, when the Breast was compleatly cicatrized.

She has not been over-cautious in her Diet since her Illness; has had another Child; and, in the Year 1751, went thro' much Grief and Fatigue for the Loss of her Husband: But notwithstanding, continues free from any of her former Complaints.

OBSERVATION XIII.

In *April* 1746, a Woman, (of the Parish of *Cheston*, past the Time of Life for her natural Evacuations, of a pretty healthy Constitution, except now and then troubled with a Pain in her Stomach, which frequently went off with a *Diarrhæa*,) shew'd me her right Breast, in the interior inferior Side of which, was a hard moveable Knot the Bigness of a Walnut: The cutaneous Veins* were inclining to be varicous, and the Teguments look'd red, about the Breadth of a crown Piece over the Tumor, or rather a little on one Side of it. She

* The cutaneous Veins in both her Breasts were ~~not~~ much larger than is common in most Women.

was the Mother of several Children, and in her last two Lyings-in, this Part of her Breast had been much swell'd and troublesome to her. — But she did not perceive any Knot 'till about a Twelvemonth ago; it having been that Time, as she said, gradually encreasing to the present Size. Since the Appearance of the Knot, she had a kind of Numbness in that Side of her Breast, and lately pricking Pains, as she term'd them, as if Pins were thrust into the Tumor.

The Morning before I saw the Breast, she had pulled off a gummous Plaister, which she had been advised to apply to bring the Tumor to Suppuration; but it making the Tumor so extremely uneasy, she was determin'd to leave it off. I order'd her to be immediately bled; to purge with *Sal Mirab. Glaub.* dissolved in Cheese-Whey; and to apply a cooling Lotion of *Aq. Rosar.* and *Acet. Litharg.* to prevent the encreasing Inflammation of the Skin: I likewise advis'd her to a low Diet. These Remedies had so good an Effect, that in two Months after, when I saw her again, there was no Inflammation on the Breast; the *Varices* were much less, and she complain'd of little or no Pain; but the Tumor continued its former Size.

The *Michaelmas* following, Bleeding and Purging were repeated, altho' the Breast continued in the same State.

In *May* 1747, the Tumor began to grow painful again, she having used hard Exercise, and being poor, was unwilling to trouble me a second Time, because what I had done for her before was *gratis*. She therefore, for a few Days, try'd the Effects of a Cataplasm of some emollient Herbs; but the Tumor enlarging, and growing more painful, she came to me. The schirrous Knot was now encreased to the Size of a Pullet's Egg; the cutaneous Veins were again grown more varicous, and the common Teguments of all the inferior interior Side of the Breast were much swelled and inflamed. — Bleeding was repeated twice, and Purging three or four Times; the Lotion before prescribed was used again; and her common Food was Milk and Cheese-Whey. These Things eased the Pains, took off the Inflammation, and lessen'd the varicous Veins; but the Tumor remained hard, without the least decreasing in Size; nay, I rather thought it grew bigger.

I then propos'd Extirpation to her, which she with some Reluctancy consented to. Accordingly, the Operation was performed in the Beginning of *April*, and the Breast
was

was completely healed by the latter End of the following *June*.

I extirpated the Tumor with a little of the surrounding sound Flesh, which together weighed two Ounces and a half.

The Tumor appeared to be an indurated fleshy Substance.

A Week after the Operation, I put her into a gentle Salivation, which was continued a Fortnight; and afterwards she took a Decoction of *Lign. Guaic.* and continues well to this Day, *Dec. 1, 1752.*

The Wound was healed by the simple Applications of dry Lint and Digestive.

N. B. She never had any Pain in her Stomach after the Disorder appeared in her Breast.

§ 85. Having proceeded thus far, my Reader may, perhaps, think I have been too prolix on some Things, while I have been too concise in others. — I think little has been said as to what internal Medicines are most proper in Cases where we propose resolving the Tumors.

If we consider the Nature of this Distemper, (§ 23. 58.) it may perhaps be thought, that *Mercury* bids fairest to answer the Intention of Resolution, both as an internal and as an external Medicine: —

Mercury certainly does seem the best cal-

culated for this Purpose ; because it acts not immediately upon the red Blood, but upon the serous and lymphatic Juices ; therefore, if applied before the Vessels have lost their organic Force, it may be of Service, by § 25, 26, 27, 28. — But if given afterwards, it may prove of the most pernicious Consequence.

It may be asked, by the young Surgeon, How it comes to pass, that *Mercury* is of such salutary Effects, after the Operation, altho' so hurtful before, (§ 38.) unless while the Tumor is in a State capable of being resolved ; and that even in the last Case, it is better not to give it so as to raise a Salivation ? I answer, that whenever a cancerous Tumor is too far advanced to be resolved, it has been found by Experience, that every Thing which encreases the *Momentum* and *Velocity* of the Blood, is injurious ; on which Account the most skilful Physicians and Surgeons do always caution their Patients, labouring with *Cancers*, against all Kinds of Exercise, that may occasion too brisk a Circulation. — ‘ Hence, says ‘ the ingenious *Van Swieten*, * the public ‘ Charity can never be better bestowed, ‘ than in providing for those unhappy

* Comment. Page 897. Tom. 1st.

‘ Women, who labouring with occult *Cancers*, are nevertheless obliged to get their ‘ Bread by hard Work’. — That *Mercury* does encrease the *Momentum* and *Velocity* of the Blood, we are convinced *à posteriori*. *Mercury* by its Gravity, (which exceeds that of the Blood-globules more than ten Times in Weight) will, when mixed with the Blood, greatly increase its impulsive Force; by which Means any viscid Matter, obstructing the Glands in their proper Office, will, (if the Glands be sound) be more easily protruded, or forced into the larger Vessels, where it may be disposed to pass off by some of the Outlets: But if the fine Vessels of the Glands have lost their elastic or restitutive Forces, *Mercury* produces no salutary Effects, by § 26.—On the contrary, the Humors being suddenly, and violently thrown upon the weaken’d Glands, the over-stretched Parts must soon give Way, their Conformation be destroy’d, the Consequence of which is obvious. — Hence we learn, that *Mercury* given after the Operation, supposing some immediate slightly affected Gland left behind, capable of Resolution, might be cured by a gentle Salivation.

§ 86. I must take Notice here, that if *Mercurius emeticus flavus*, or such other

rough Preparations of *Mercury*, have ever done Service in cancerous Cases, it must have been whilst the Tumors were recent: But those who have prescribed such Medicines, not duly considering or observing the State of the Tumors when they gave them, and having by Chance, perhaps, observed that they really did good sometimes, have therefore indiscriminately recommended them in every Case; so that some of those who have followed their Direction, finding in general the bad Effects of them, not having, 'tis likely, ever had a proper Subject to work upon (as is frequently the Case) have therefore been the Reason of their being universally condemned in every Stage of the Distemper.

§ 87. I cannot take upon me to say how far the rougher Preparations of *Mercury* may be of Service in resolving cancerous Tumors, having never used any of them for that Intention. — At present, I should rather recommend the crude *Mercury*, made into Pills with a little *Rhubarb*. S. A. One of these Pills may contain about ten Grains of *Mercury*, more or less, according to the Constitution of the Patient. — Give one of these Pills every, or every other Night, *ad horam somni*, as long as the Patient can bear them, avoiding by all Means a Salivation:

vation : To prevent which, the Patient may be purged once or twice in a Week with a little *Sal Mirab. Glaub.* dissolved in a Pint of Cheese-Whey, if the Mercury Pills do not work themselves off sufficiently. — The Tumor may be gently rubbed every Night with some *Ung. Mercuriale* *, and afterwards cover'd with a Piece of soft Leather, or Flannel. — Bleeding may be advis'd at proper Intervals; a cooling Diet, with Milk, &c. especially if there are Signs of Inflammation : But a perfect Regularity of all the Non-Naturals ought to be duly observed in every Case.

§ 88. If the Disease is supposed to arise from the Obstruction of any natural or præternatural Evacuations, as whether they be the *Menses*, the *Hæmorrhoids*, or the sudden Healing up of some habitual Ulcer, &c. those Discharges ought to be promoted again, if possible, Regard being had to the Disease in hand : If an Ulcer has been dry'd up, an Issue may supply its Place, and is very necessary. — Such artificial Drains are likewise very salutary at that Period of Life when the *Catamenia* leave the Sex. If those habitual Evacuations return again, and the Patient enjoys good Health, if you are not

* *Vide* Page 46, of this Essay.

lucky enough to dissolve or disperse the Tumor, you may then with Safety extirpate it. — If the Tumor has been of some Time standing, without much Pain, its Growth having been very slow, the Operation is then very likely to be attended with Success; even though the Patient should not observe the Regimen, &c. so punctually as he ought to do after the Extirpation. — But I would by no Means advise any Hazards to be run of this Kind, lest the worst should follow.

§ 89. We ought, in all schirro-cancerous Tumors, to be extremely cautious in applying any mercurial and gummous Plaister of a very adhesive Nature, altho' extolled with the Names of Discutients or Resolvents. — One Instance of the bad Effects of them, which lately fell under my Inspection, I shall present the Reader with, as follows.

OBSERVATION XIV.

A middle-aged Woman, (the Mother of several Children, subject to nervous Complaints, and a little addicted to the Drinking of spirituous Liquors) in her last Lying-in, observed the Nipple of her right Breast a little tuck'd in, with a Knot near it, and another lower in the inferior Part of the Breast.

Breast.— She was advised not to suckle the Child at that Breast; and accordingly, simple *Diachylon* Plaisters were applied to dry up the Milk. Soon after the Nipple of the other Breast excoriated; upon which she weaned the Infant, and dry'd up the Milk in that Breast likewise. Two Months after her Lying-in she menstruated, but not so much as common; the Knots in her right Breast grew uneasy with pricking darting Pains. She then applied to a Practitioner, who covered all the Breast with a mercurial gummous Plaister; bled, and purged her once afterwards, with *Pulv. Jalapii* and *Crem. Tartar*. A Week after the Application of the Plaister, the Tumors began to grow more painful, and the whole Breast troubled her with a continual Itching. She then came to me. I removed the Plaister, and found the Breast full of red Pimples, excoriated, in some Parts, the Breadth of a Six-pence, the under Side red, swelled, and inflamed; the Knot near the Nipple, unequal, of the Bigness of a Walnut, but not very hard; the Tumor below, felt like that above, as to the Induration and Inequality of it, but it was larger and more fixed in the Breast than the superior one. I covered all the excoriated Places

with *Ung. alb. camphor.* spread upon fine Cloth; and order'd her frequently to apply in the Day-time, to the inflamed Part of the Breast, a Lotion of *Acet. com. part. j. Aq. Rosar. alb. part. iv.* with a few Grains of *Sacchar. satur.* just warm with linen Cloths, and to let them lay 'till near dry, before she renewed them.

I bled her to the Quantity of ten Ounces, and prescribed her the following Internals.

R Mercur. dulcis gr. v. Conserv. Rosar. rubr. q. s. f. Bolus, hora somni sumendus, cras mane haust. sequent. capiat.

R Sal. mirab. Glaub. ver. ℥j. Mamma opt. ℥ss. dissolvantur in Aq. font. ℥iv. cola.

These Medicines were repeated twice in a Week, for a Fortnight, when the Tumors grew rather less, the Pains quite gone, and the Breast was restored to its natural Complexion. — I prescribed her a cooling Diet, but she did not observe my Directions so well as she should have done; only in the Room of Brandy, which sometimes she mixed with a little Water, and drank at her Meals, she now condescended to drink White-Wine and Water. The Tumors remain still in her Breast for ought

I know, having heard nothing from her lately *.

§ 90. In Cases where the Surgeon is not applied to 'till the Disease is far advanced, and he suspects such Parts affected as cannot be easily extirpated, he is then by no Means to undertake the Operation, unless by the positive Command of the Patient, who ought to have the Danger of a Relapse fairly explained to him, by § 12.

Here the palliative Method should be recommended, under the Advice of some prudent Physician, if the Patient's Circumstances will admit of it. — *Sed ubi res sunt angustæ domi*, we may, if the Symptoms are urgent, prescribe frequent *venæ-sections*, cooling Lotion to the Parts affected, of *Acet. Litharg.* diluted with *Aq. Rosar.* &c. gentle Purgatives of *Sal Mirab. Glaub. Manna, Tamarind, Sena, Cassia, Magnesia alba*, and all such moderate Laxatives as open the Belly without raising any Commotion in the Blood and Juices. — If the Tumor is ulcerated, we are to proceed as directed in § 49, 50.

The Diet indicated in this Distemper, may be composed of most of the farinaceous Substances, as Wheat, Oats, Rice, &c. we

* 'Tis now four Years since I saw her.

may likewise in some Cases, allow of the lighter Kinds of Animal-food ; such as Chicken, Turkey, Veal, and Lamb for Dinner ; the Breakfast and Supper may be of Milk, or some of its Preparations ; Asses Milk drank every Morning has been found of great Service in palliating this Distemper ; where there is great Pain, Anodynes are very proper ; good small Beer, or small Mead, may be used for common Drink at Meals : There are many Vegetables good in this Disease, as we have already observed in § 38. These in general ought to be of the soft emollient Kind ; always avoiding those of an acrid Nature ; as Onions, Garlick, Leeks, Horse-radish, Scurvy-grass, Brook-lime, Indian-cref-fes, &c.

§ 91. We ought always to order such a Diet, &c. as may oppose and correct the known Acrimony of the Humors. Thus, if the Patient is of a putrid scorbutic Habit, joined to an atrabiliary Temperature, all Kinds of Pulse and Grain, with soft Garden Fruits and Herbs, are proper ; such as Strawberries, Barberries, Cherries, Oranges, Sorrel, &c. add to these the four greater cold Seeds, Whey, Butter-Milk, thin Decoctions of the Shavings of Harts-horn, Honey, &c. But if an atrabiliary, or melancholy

lancholy Temperature of the Juices chiefly predominates, the following *Hydromel*, joined with such a Diet as is mentioned in § 90. will be of very great Benefit.

R *Scob. Lign. Guaiaci* ℥ss. *Radicum Bardanæ* ℥j. *Fol. Verbasci* M. vj. *misce.* Σ

Put these Ingredients into a Kettle, with one Pound of ston'd Raisins, and four Pounds of Honey; measure to them four Gallons of soft running Spring-Water; stir them well together, and take the Depth of the Liquor by a Notch in a Stick; then put into the Kettle two Gallons more of Water, and with a gentle Fire, boil the Liquor down to four Gallons, that is, to the Mark in the Stick: Pour off the Liquor from the Ingredients, whilst hot, gently squeezing them with your Hand: When it is cool enough, work it up with a little Yeast, as you would do Ale.

In the mean Time hang into a proper Vessel, in a Bag with a Stone in it to sink it, the following Ingredients:

R *Flor. recentium Papaveris erratici* ℥ij. *vel* ℥iij. *Cortici sassafras* ℥ss. *Uvarum passarum granis exemptis* ℥j. *misce.* Σ

When given Poppy Rheum Tun
and the rest as usual

Tun the Liquor to the Bag: What works over that is thin, pour back into the Vessel; and when it has done working, draw the Bag up a Hand's Breadth from the Bottom, and pour into it a Pint, (Wine Measure) of *Vinum Antimoniale*. — Bung it close, and in a Week, or ten Days after, you may broach and draw it into Bottles. — Let the Patient take of this Drink, a Quarter of a Pint, three or four Times in a Day, between Meals.

I make the *Vinum Antimoniale* in the following Manner.

R Vitri Antimonii pulv. ℥ss. Vini albi ℔ss. Macerentur sine calore, & per chartam coletur.

 N. B. In the Winter-time I always use the dry'd Flowers of wild Poppies; a Pound then generally serves me. — I have found the Use of the preceding *Hydromel*, not only serviceable in *Cancers* actually formed, but likewise have experienced the good Effects of it in Women at that Period of Life when their natural Evacuations are about, or have left them. — I have great Reason to believe, that, by the Use of it, along with gentle mercurial Purgatives, a proper Diet, with an Issue in each Leg, I have prevented
Cancers;

Cancers; at least, I am sure, I have preserved them otherwise in Health. — I have sometimes made the *Hydromel* itself a gentle Purgative by the Addition of a little *Sena*: Tho' in some Constitutions, it will always prove so by virtue only of the *Vin. antimon.* I have sometimes made the antimonial Wine with the *Crocus Metallorum*.

§ 92. In § 82, we have said, that the Cause of a *Cancer* ought rather to be removed before the Tumor is extirpated. — 'But', as the ingenious *Van Swieten* observes, * 'The Severity of the Disease often urges, and will give no Time of correcting the known Acrimony of the

* Comment. p. 902. 'Verum sæpe urget mali atrocitas, neque datur tempus corrigendi cognitam humorum acrimoniam ante extirpationem, cum metus sit, ne ulceratus cancer vicina inficiat loca, vel malignas radices in profundum dimittat, sicque impossibilem extirpationem reddat: unde tunc præstat, statim cancerum rescindere & deinde idoneo victu, debitisque remediis, cognitam humorum cacochymicam emendare.

'Funestam adeo prognosim canceri dedit Celsus, ut solam fere curam palliativam admiserit. Excisum enim cancerum tamen reverti & occidere dixit. Innumeris autem observationibus constat, cancerum, si totus simul & semel cum omni sua radice tollatur, tuto extirpari, & absque recidiva †: Ubi vero vel minima ejus particula relinquitur, tunc malignius repullulat'.

† Hildan. Observ. Chirurg. Cent. 3. Observ. 87.

Hu-

‘ Humors before Extirpation, since there
 ‘ might be Fear lest the ulcerated *Cancer*
 ‘ should infect the adjacent Parts, or fix
 ‘ its malignant Roots more deeply, so as
 ‘ to render the Extirpation impossible :
 ‘ Hence then in such Cases, it is best to
 ‘ extirpate the *Cancer* immediately, and af-
 ‘ terwards to mend the known vitiated
 ‘ State of the Humors, by proper Diet and
 ‘ Remedies. (*Vide* § 83, of this Essay.)

‘ *Celſus*, continues *Van Swieten*, has given
 ‘ us ſo ſevere a Prognosis of a *Cancer*, that
 ‘ he admits it to be capable of little more
 ‘ than a palliative Cure. — For he has ſaid,
 ‘ That if the *Cancer* is extirpated, it never-
 ‘ theleſs returns, and kills the Patient.
 ‘ (See § 4 of this Essay.) But it appears
 ‘ from innumerable Obſervations, that if
 ‘ the *Cancer* is totally taken away altogether
 ‘ at once, with its Roots, it may be ſafely
 ‘ extirpated without Danger of a Relapſe :
 ‘ But if the leaſt Part of it is left behind,
 ‘ the Diſeaſe returns then with more Ma-
 ‘ lignancy than at firſt.’

§ 93. Having thus far removed, I hope,
 ſome of the principal Objections to the
 Operation, there remains one ſtill, and that
 the Reader will ſay, perhaps, is no incon-
 ſiderable one; I mean, of judging in the
 Extirpation of the Tumor when we have

cer-

certainly eradicated all the diseased Part ; for chiefly on that depends the successful Event. If the *Cancer* is in the Breast, we have no exact Criterion to lead us when to be truly satisfied of it ; tho' our Eyes, and the Feeling of the Parts, will, in a great Measure, direct us : But if the Tumor is seated in the Lip, a Remark made by the celebrated M. *Le Dran*, * is a good Guide for us. — I shall give my Reader what he says in his own Words.

‘ In the Number of cancerous Tumors,
 ‘ says he, that have been under my Care, I
 ‘ have seen several where the Colour of the
 ‘ internal Skin of the Lip has been changed,
 ‘ above an Inch round the Circumference
 ‘ of the Tumor, and the Redness of that
 ‘ Skin more vivid than in other Parts.
 ‘ This Alteration of Colour is a certain
 ‘ Proof, that the Glands underneath are
 ‘ affected, altho' the Obstruction does not
 ‘ appear by their Swelling. When this
 ‘ happens, it is requisite to take off that
 ‘ Part of the Lip ; for want of doing which
 ‘ the Tumor would certainly return.
 ‘ Suppose even that the whole Skin should
 ‘ appear in its natural Colour, we must not
 ‘ be contented with extirpating the Tumor

* Observ. in Surgery, p. 42.

‘ only,

‘ only, but also take off a Part of that
 ‘ which is found. As the Skin yields suffi-
 ‘ ciently to make Room for a *Suture*, it is
 ‘ better to sacrifice a small Part of the Lip
 ‘ on each Side the Tumor, than to leave
 ‘ any obstructed Glands behind, which may
 ‘ form another hereafter’.

OBSERVATION XV.

He then proceeds, and gives us an Account of a cancerous Tumor in the Lip, of the Bigness of a small Melon, which hung to the superior Part of the *Sternum*, and covered the lower Part of the Face, in such a Manner, that the Patient was obliged to raise it, when he wanted to put any Food into his Mouth.

The upper Part of the Tumor adhered to the Gums along the Border of the Teeth, and to the Skin covering the Extremity of the Cartilage that divides the two Nostrils. It possessed the whole upper Lip, and Part of the left Cheek, below the *Processus Zygomaticus*. — This Tumor * he extirpated, in the Presence of two eminent Surgeons, and made a perfect Cure of his Patient. A Fortnight after the Operation, he says, the

* It weighed almost two Pounds.

Patient told his Pupils, the Tumor had been extirpated before, when it was no bigger than a Cherry: This Account, continues he, made me apprehend a Return of the Distemper; but it never happen'd.

From this he concludes, that only Part of the Tumor was extirpated in the first Operation.

O B S E R V A T I O N X V I .

Some Years ago, a Surgeon (in *Norfolk*) shewed me a Patient, about forty Years old, from whom he had a few Months before extirpated a cancerous Tumor, the Bigness of a Hasel-nut, that grew upon the Man's upper Lip on the left Side. — When I saw him, there was a little *Fungus* thrust out of the superior Part of the *Cicatrix* near the Nostril, which was very painful: The external Part of the Lip look'd of its natural Complexion, but the internal Part, about the Breadth of a Shilling, appeared of a darkish red Colour. — This immediately brought to my Remembrance the Observation of *Le Dran*. The Wound never had been completely cicatrized, but remained for some Weeks (tho' not at all troublesome) with a Scab upon the Place where the *Fungus* grew out: After the Appearance

pearance of the *Fungus* it grew painful. I called the Surgeon a-side, and told him, My Opinion was, that some of the Roots of the *Cancer* had not been extirpated in the Operation; that a small Part of the Lip, which perhaps then might to outward Appearance look sound, ought to have been taken away with the Tumor, to have prevented a Relapse. — He was not of my Opinion, but said, it would have been a great Piece of Imprudence to have made such a large Wound on the Face, as he must have done, had he extirpated so much of the Lip as I mentioned; and that, consequently, he must have left a very unsightly Scar: For, says he, we cannot be too careful in leaving a sufficient Quantity of Skin after all Amputations, to make a good Cure, and to prevent Deformity. — I acquiesced with him, that this Rule, indeed, ought always to be observed as much as possible; but, in the Case before us, the *Cancer* was more likely to occasion a much worse Deformity, than the Loss of that Portion of the Lip would have done. — With his Leave, I recommended to the unhappy Patient, a second Tryal to eradicate the Disorder by Excision, and the Use of a Milk Diet, &c. — But I have since heard, that neither the Operation, nor the Method

Method of Living I prescribed, were complied with.—About half a Year afterwards, I was further inform'd, that he was labouring with all the terrible Symptoms of an ulcerated *Cancer*; and since that, I have been told, he is dead.

REFLECTIONS.

Might not this Man, very probably, have been still living, had he been judiciously treated? And has not the Ignorance of Operators been, in many Cases of this Kind, the Occasion of Relapses; which, in a great Measure, has brought the Operation into Disrepute?

§ 94. In the foregoing Discourse, I have taken little or no Notice of *Cancers* affecting the *Viscera*; because such more immediately fall under the Physician's than the Surgeon's Care.—For I do not intend this as a complete Treatise on this Disease; but only to express my own Sentiments on such Cases as are chiefly the Objects of chirurgical Operation, and the Success I have had in those Cases under my own Direction.

In § 18, we have said, that a *Cancer* in the *Uterus* is scarcely ever cured; to which we may add those affecting the *Podex*: But these

these are sometimes to be palliated, by proper Diet, internal Remedies, and Injections. — I had a remarkable Case, some Time a-gone, of a *Cancer in Utero*, complicated with the *Lues Venerea*, which I shall relate.

OBSERVATION XVII.

In the Beginning of *September*, 1751, a poor Woman, about fifty Years old, (of the Parish of *Swelfing*, near *Saxmundham*) came to ask my Advice concerning a Pain and Difficulty of making Urine; which she said, had been gradually coming upon her, for more than a Year past; and she believed that her Husband had given her the foul Disease; by which she meant the *Lues Venerea*. I found, by her Discourse, that her Husband had given her a *Clap* some Years ago; for which she had been near two Months under the Care of an ignorant Man, without receiving any Benefit; but was at last cured by the ingenious Dr. *Copland*, of *Yoxford*. I could not find, on her first telling me the Complaints which she then laboured under, that there was any Reason to suspect a fresh Infection. I was at first suspicious of the Stone; but on search, felt a hard Gland in the *Vagina Uteri*,

Uteri, which pressed upon the Neck of the Bladder, in such a Manner, as must consequently suppress the Urine. — The *Uterus* itself seem'd enlarged, attended with darting Pains, and felt quite fixed and immoveable in the *Pelvis*; its Mouth would admit my Finger, from whence issued an intolerable fetid, bloody, Discharge; and this convinced me it was a *Cancer*. I passed the Cathether, and let off near a Pint of Urine, but felt nothing in the Bladder. She had not admitted of her Husband's Embraces for near four Months past; such Converse being attended with great Pain: But still, she said, she was sure he had again given her the foul Disease, the last Time he had to do with her. I ask'd why she thought so; she said, that a few Days after he had laid with her, she had more Smart in making Urine than usual; and at the same Time began to have a Discharge like the Whites, as the good Women call the *Fluor albus*: That he himself made Complaints when he made Water, and was daily taking of Pills, and obliged her to take some with him; which, she said, had made her much worse; but since she had took some purging Physic, that she believed was of Service to her. I then examined the *Labia pudendi*, and found several sordid Ulcers, some of them

them covered with a yellow Scab, and very painful ; having greatly the Aspect of the *Lues Venerea*.—I was unwilling to discourage her with my Thoughts on her unhappy Case ; but I informed her Brother, (who came to my House with her) that I doubted no more than a palliative Cure was to be expected ; and that I believed she would not live long ; for she seemed inclined to a hectic Fever.—Of this I informed the Parish Officers, of the Village to which she belonged ; who nevertheless agreed with her Brother to leave her at *Halesworth* under my Care.—Accordingly she was lodged near me, on *September* the 12th, 1751.

I began palliating her Disease by moderate Doses of *Mercur. dulcis* given over Night, every three or four Days, purging them off the following Mornings, with a little *Rad. Rhabar* : and on the intermediate Days, she took plentifully of a Decoction of *Guaiacum*, together with a Milk Diet, &c.—Every other Night her private Parts were fumigated with *Cinnabar*, and *Mercur. præcip. rub.*—I was likewise obliged to administer a gentle Anodyne every Evening, at the Hour of Rest, to ease her Pain, and to procure Sleep ; which for some time past, she had been almost

most a Stranger to. Her Urine was almost wholly suppressed, so that she was now obliged daily to be relieved by the Catheter.—These Medicines seemed to agree with her for better than a Week, when she was suddenly seized with a *Diarrhæa*, and a prodigious Swelling of the *Labia pudendi*, with an Increase of Pain in the *Uterus*.—I immediately desisted from any further Use of the Fumigation; fomented the grieved Parts with an emollient Fomentation, dressed the *Chancres*, or Ulcers, with a little *Ung. mercuriale*; and suppressed the *Diarrhæa* with the Decoct. *Fracast.* &c. But I kept her to the Use of the *Guaiacum* Drink.—In a few Days the Swelling of the private Parts subsided, and the Ulcers began to discharge good Matter: but the putrid *Sanies*, which issued from the Womb, was so intolerably fetid as scarce to be borne.—I then ordered the following Injection for the *Uterus*.

℞ *Lap. medicament.* ʒij *coq. paulisper in*
Aq. Calcis ℔j *cola, cui adde Decocti*
Guaiac. ℔ss *f. injectio: Hujus tepe-*
facti q. s. bis in die, in Uterum, ope
siphonis, injiciatur.

The Decoction of the *Guaiacum* was made by boiling four Ounces of the Raspings in six Pints of Water to four, and then strained. I likewise prescribed her the following Electuary.

℞ *Elect. lenitiv.* ʒvj. *Mercur. alcalsat.* zij.
Salph. præcip. Calcis Antimon. Sal.
Nitri pur. āā ʒj. *Syr. e Cort. Aurant.*
q. s. f. Elect. cujus capiat ad mag.
N. M. bis in die, superbibendo ℥ss
Decocti Guaiac. cujus eandem bibat
quantitatem per se, sæpe in die.

The Use of the above Electuary and Decoction were continued a Fortnight; when, in their Room, she took only of the following Decoction.

℞ *Rad. Chinæ Sarsap. tenuiter incis.* āā
 ʒj. *Torment. Eryng. cond. incis.* āā ʒss.
coq. in ℥q. font. ℥iv. ad ℥ij. cola, &
adde Syr. Balsam. q. s. ad saporem
gratum: cujus bibat ʒiv, sæpe in die,
cum tertia parte lactis vaccin. admist.

The Anodyne was continued every Night during the Course of her taking the Electuary, and *Decoct. Guaiac.* she sweat little; but when she complained of Faintness,

ness, her Spirits were recruited with moderate Draughts of small red Wine-whey.— After persevering a Month in the Use of the Injection, and the above Remedies, she seemed so far recovered, (the Discharge from the *Uterus* being almost gone, and not at all fetid, the Pains greatly abated, and the Ulcers in the *Labia pudendi* were quite healed) that her Relations and Neighbours laughed at the Severity of my Prognosis, and thought little else was further wanting to complete her Cure, than to relieve her Stoppage of Urine, which indeed was now totally suppressed; she never making a Drop but by the Help of the Catheter.

I confess I was greatly surprized at this Alteration for the better; and she so far imposed upon me, that I ordered my Instrument maker to make a very short Catheter, which, being contrived with a Cork, to be put in and taken out at Pleasure, in order for the Discharge of the Urine, was to have been introduced into the Bladder, and confined there by means of a Ribbon passed through two small Rings in the Head of the Catheter, and then carried between the Thighs backwards, and coming round the lower Part of the Abdomen tied before; so that it

needed only to have been removed twice or thrice in a Week to have cleaned it.— But she did not live long enough to want this ~~new~~ Instrument; for as soon as she began to get a pretty good Appetite, she indulged herself in drinking Strong-beer, eating Beef-stakes, &c. for Dinner; and, very frequently, Red-herrings for Supper; so that this acrimonious Diet, soon put the latent Remains of the Distemper *in Utero*, again into Agitation; and in three Weeks afterwards, the Pains and fetid Discharge from the Womb, were returned as bad as ever.—The *Cancer* eat its Way thro' the *Uterus* and Bladder, for a few Days before she died, her Urine was evacuated *per Vaginam*; notwithstanding she was daily relieved with the Catheter, twice or thrice a Day, either by myself, or the young Gentleman my Apprentice; who had by Use and my Directions, learned to pass it very dexterously, when Necessity required in my Absence. The modest Way of passing the Catheter, is to do it underneath the Bed-clothes; without uncovering the Patient.— She died *November* the 22d, 1751.

When the Nature and Cause of a Disease is not well understood, the Cure can seldom be prosecuted with Success; and the

the Prognosis in such Cases will mostly be erroneous. The following Case is an Instance of the Truth of this Assertion.

OBSERVATION XVIII.

Some Years ago, a maiden young Woman about Twenty, subject to a *Chlorosis* and the *Fluor albus*, complained of an Uneasiness in the *Vagina*; for which she applied to a Midwife; who not being able to find out the Nature of her Complaint, (after the fruitless Applications of a Fomentation to the external Parts, for some time) advised her to a neighbouring Surgeon; who on the Inspection of a bloody and fetid Discharge, which daily, for some Weeks past, had issued from the *Vagina*, concluded it an ulcerated *Cancer*; and after a further slight Examination, pronounced it incurable.—However, he ordered her an Injection, but it was of no Service to her.—Some time after she applied to me.—I found her a poor thin, pale Creature, under a great Dejection of Spirits, and could not be spoke to without crying.—She told me that her Disorder had been coming upon her, by degrees, for better than a Year past, without much Pain, only a kind of pricking Smart after walking, as she

expressed it ; but that now she was full of Pain, and the Discharge which came from her Body smelt so bad, as scarce to be borne.—And indeed so I found it ; for when I came to examine her, I could hardly bear it.—The Discharge, which came from her, was not great, of a darkish bloody Colour ; but the external *Privities* were protruded, and the *Labia pudendi* a little swelled.

She made Water with Difficulty, and that not without the Assistance of her Finger.—I met with no Difficulty in passing the Catheter, by which I discharged about half a Pint of pale Urine.—I felt nothing in the Bladder.—But in passing my Finger *in Vaginam*, I discovered a hard Body, which felt, I thought, at first, almost like the *Os Uteri* come down within an Inch of the *Os externum* : At length I found it was a Tumor, or large Excrescence that grew to the left Side of the *Vagina*, and that the Basis of it was small.—By gently dilating the *Os externum*, and the Help of a proper Syringe with warm Water, I evacuated some of the stinking grumous Blood, which had been lodged there some time ; and was nothing more than the menstrual Discharges accumulated in the Cavity of the *Vagina* by the Obstruction of this pre-
ter-

ternatural Body.—My Business was now how to extirpate this Tumor.—I was doubtful of the Species of this Excrecence ; as whether it might not be of a cancerous Nature. I would have called in my ingenious and very worthy Friend Mr. *Edward Cooper* (an eminent Surgeon of *Bungay*) but was not permitted.—I then set about the Operation, and by the Help of the Iron Instrument invented by Mr. *Chefelden* for tying the Tonsils with a proper Ligature, I soon extirpated the *Schirrus* ; which was as large as a Walnut, an Inch long, and of the Shape of a Cone inverted, so that as it grew, its Basis, as I said before, was much smaller than its Extremity : which was a favourable Circumstance in the Extirpation.—The Part grew well in ten Days after the Operation, by the Use of only an Injection of simple *Aq. Calcis* and *Mel Rosarum* : And, in three Months afterwards, she was restored to perfect Health by a few internal Remedies.

I shall conclude this Essay with the often quoted Saying of *Horace*,

— *Si quid novisti rectius istis
Candidus imperti : si non his utere mecum.*

*A LETTER to Mr. John Freke,
Surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hos-
pital, and F.R.S.*

S I R,

I Have been, some time, in a Doubt, whether I should communicate the Success I have already had on a new Method of treating cancerous Ulcers, (which has occur'd to me since the writing of my Essay,) or whether I ought not to wait 'till farther Experience has informed me how far the ensuing Remarks may merit the Attention of the Public.—But as, sometimes, seemingly trivial Hints, in Matters of this Nature, from Persons of the smallest Experience, may be of Use to those of more Skill and extensive Practice, I determined with myself to presume on troubling you with this Letter, and that, if it should meet your Approbation, to have it printed with my Essay.

That learned Body, of which you are a worthy Member, has always shewn Encouragement to all laudable Endeavours for useful Discoveries in Nature, and the Science of Medicine; I thought, therefore, I could write to no properer Person than to yourself, as one of that Society of noble,
learned,

learned, and ingenious Men, who has laid, as I may say, your Injunctions on me to attempt all in my Power towards improving the Art of Healing.

I am, I fear, very unequal to the Task you have assigned me; and more especially in a Disease which has hitherto eluded the Skill of the greatest Proficients in Surgery; who, as yet, I believe, are ignorant of any certain Cure for an ulcerated *Cancer*.

God only knows whether my slender Endeavours will ever answer the Purpose I intend them; but I am determined to lose no Opportunity that my Practice may furnish me with, in attempting to discover a Remedy for this terrible Disease; and I heartily wish all those of superior Abilities, and larger Practice, would do the same.

'Tis true, I have been laughed at already, behind my Back, for this Determination; and, it has been said, I shall be only ridiculed for my Vanity, and the idle Scheme of my endeavouring to find out a Cure for a Distemper, which the most learned and skilful allow incurable.— But I am content to bear all the Calumny of those, who, I am sensible are the Majority, against me, provided I can have the

Approbation of the discerning few, who, though my Attempts should prove unsuccessful, will still lament the Want of such a Discovery, and nevertheless praise, rather than dispraise, the Goodness of my Intention.

I shall not, good Sir, tire you with any farther Preface, but hasten to inform you, that I have made various Experiments with the Juices of divers kinds of Plants, and after I had found, in the most cautious Manner, that some of them might be safely applied to the human Body, I made Trial of these Juices on ulcerated *Cancers*.—

I shall not, at present, trouble you with an Account of all the Plants I have made Trial of: That which, I think, deserves our immediate Notice, is, the sharp-pointed *Spurge*, or *Cataputia*; which I have growing in my Garden.—The milky Juices of this Plant is somewhat acrimonious; as may be discovered by the Taste of it; but it makes no Change on the blue Paper.

As I do not, now, intend to give a Detail of the Methods made use of to discover the Nature of this Plant, and what first induced me to make Trial of it, I shall only, in general Terms, tell you in what Manner I have used it, and the Success I have had with it in one Case; at the same Time

Time ingenuously relating what I mixed with it, and what internal Medicines my Patient took at the Time of its Application.

After I had got about a Pint of the Juice of the *Cataputia*, (partly by wounding a Number of Plants in several Places, and partly by Expression) I placed it in the Sun, in a Leaden-dish, where it stood 'till it had acquired almost the Consistence of an Ointment.—To every Ounce of this inspissated Juice, I mixed of *Mercur. dulcis præcipit.* * and finely levigated Black-lead, of each one Scruple: The Ungent, thus prepared, was kept in Gallypots close tied down with a Bladder, for Use.

The Case in which I used the above *Unguent* is as follows.

A young Woman, about thirty Years old, (sometimes subject to cutaneous Ulcers on her Legs, which were healed by ordinary Applications and mild mercurial Purgatives) had the Misfortune to be brought to Bed of an illegitimate Child; which at first she suckled.

In a few Weeks after her Delivery, her right Breast swelled and inflamed, so that

 * What I call *Mercur. dulcis præcipit.* is sweet Mercury precipitated in *Aq. Calcis*, as described in my Essay.

the Child could not suck of it: But to prevent its coming to Suppuration, she had it, twice in a Day, fomented with very hot *Spir. Vin. rect.* which, indeed, abated the Swelling, in some measure, and the Inflammation; but reduced the whole Breast to a very hard schirrous Tumor.—The Uneasiness which she suffered from the Pains in her Breast, and other Circumstances, going contrary to her Wishes, threw her into a Fever, for which she kept her Bed three Weeks.—During this Disorder the Milk in her other Breast so much lessened, that she was obliged to wean the Infant.

Almost four Months elapsed in the Use of various Applications, as Poultices, &c. prescribed by her female Acquaintance, to resolve the Induration of the Breast; but with so little Success, that both the Pain and Hardness rather encreased; although there was a partial Suppuration of a very large Knot in the interior inferior Side of the Breast near its Basis.—The Matter discharged was thin and ichorous.—Soon after this, an ill-condition'd *Fungus* thrust out at the Orifice of the Sore, which her female Attendant endeavoured often to reduce, by clipping off the Top with her Scissars, afterwards rubbing it with the Vitriol Stone, and then covering the Ulcer
with

with an Ointment of her own making.—These Applications gave her great Pain, the *Fungus*, in a Day or two, growing up as large as ever, and bleeding some Ounces every time it was cut, made her, at length, so miserable, that she was desirous I should attend her.

I found the whole Breast indurated, as before observed, and much enlarged, so that it could with Difficulty be moved upon the Ribs; the Skin a little inflamed, and the cutaneous Veins turgid.—The *Fungus* was near an Inch higher than the Skin, and as large as an ordinary Man's Thumb, the Roots of which seemed to grow out of the Middle of the Tumor, which could with much Difficulty be felt from the other Parts of the Breast, and was of the Size of a large Hen's Egg.—This was the Tumor, in which there had been an ichorous Suppuration, as above-mentioned.—From this *Fungus* there issued a very thin and fetid *Sanies*.

The whole Breast, and particularly the Knot, from whence the *Fungus* grew, were attended with such lancinating Pains, that she, frequently, for some Weeks past, had laid whole Nights without Sleep.—Except a little feverish Indisposition, consequently arising from the Trouble and Fatigue of
this

this Breast, she was otherwise in pretty good Health, tho' she had had no Appearance of her *Menses* for three Months past.

I pass'd my Probe near two Inches into several Parts of the fungous Mass, without giving her much Pain; but the Blood immediately follow'd the withdrawing the Probe, to the Quantity of an Ounce or two.

From these Circumstances I was apprehensive the Breast was become cancerous; and, although I concealed my Sentiments from her concerning it, I judg'd there could be no Cure, unless the Breast was amputated.

However, being desirous to see what I could do with it, before I propos'd the Extirpation; I bled and purged her, twice in a Week, with *Argent. Viv. gr. xij. Pilul. ex Colocyntbide cum aloë gr. xv.* made into Pills; directed cooling Lotions to the inflamed Integuments; applied *Ung. nutrit. cum pulver. gall.* to the *Fungus*; and, lastly, cover'd the whole Breast with a mercurial saturnine Cerate. I likewise prescribed her a suitable Diet.

Five Weeks were spent in attempting to resolve the Induration of the Breast, with this Success, that the Hardness dispersed,
and

and it became very moveable on the Ribs ; but the Tumor and *Fungus* remained much as usual ; daily discharging a thin watery Ichor, but less foetid. — I then endeavor'd to destroy the *Fungus* with some Præcipitate, but by this Means the Disorder was greatly irritated ; the Tumor, in a few Days, enlarged ; the whole Breast swelled, and grew again very painful. Upon this, I immediately desisted from any farther Use of the Præcipitate ; applied *Ung. nutrit. ut antea*, continuing the Application of the saturnine Cerate ; repeated Bleeding and Purging as before. — In little better than a Week's Time, the Swelling was again subsided, and the Pains almost gone, so that I could feel distinctly the Tumor, which was, indeed, harder than usual, as well as the fungous Flesh. — In a few Days after this, the Breast coming to its natural Softness, I then, with my Patient's Consent, was determined to dissect out the Knot and *Fungus* together ; which accordingly I did. — Five Days after the Operation, the Wound began to digest, and seemed to go on as well as we could wish ; but in the Space of a Week more, at the Bottom of the Wound, I discover'd a hardish fungous Excrecence arising, attended with some Pain.

This

This greatly alarm'd me, being apprehensive of a Return of the Disease, owing, as I supposed, to some affected Part being left behind, which should have been extirpated.

I attempted reducing this Excrecence with red Mercury præcipitate; but this did not agree; it seem'd to harden the Excrecence, although it cropt the Top of it, while the Basis daily encreased, and the other Parts of the Wound began to discharge a very thin Matter.

I endeavor'd to excite a gentle Salivation after the Operation, according to the Directions in my Essay, but in vain; the Mercury always ran through her.—These Methods proving unsuccessful, I applied the following Cataplasim, and made her drink daily five Pints of the *Decoct. Lign. Guaiac.* as directed in the Medical Essays*.

R *Rasur. lign. Guaiac. lbss. Flor. Chamæmel. m. vj. M. Coq. ex Aq. font. q. s. ad colat. lbiv. p. fotu.*

R *huiusce colatur. lbss. Farin. Sem. Lin. ℥iv. coq. ad consistent. cataplasim.*

After a Week's Use of these Things, I found they would answer neither mine, nor

* *Vide Page 83. Vol. v. 3d Edition.*

my Patient's Expectations; for altho' she sweat considerably, and Part of the Breast continued in good Order, yet the fungous Excrecence encreased, and the Sore daily grew more crude.

I then cover'd the whole Sore, with thin Pledgets of Lint spread with the *Unguent* of the *Cataputia* before described; over this I applied the Cataplasm, and continued the Decoction as before. — The second Day after the Application of the *Cataputia*, the Lips of the Sore grew turgid and inflamed; and the affected Side of the Breast, on the third Day, was somewhat tumified, but attended with no great Degree of Pain. — In short, in about ten Days, there followed several small Suppurations in the Lips of the Sore, the fungous Substance daily wasted, and was cast off, and in fifteen Days after the Use of the *Cataputia*, the Ulcer became well digested, and appeared in a healing State. — I then order'd her to drink less of the Decoction, and left off the Use of the Ointment of the *Cataputia*. — I dress'd the Ulcer with such ordinary Applications, as are commonly used to Wounds in an incarning State; but continued the Use of the Cataplasm to the End of the Cure; which was compleated in two Months after the Application of the *Cataputia*.

Two

Two Months after her Cure, her *Menses* returned, and continued their regular Periods ; and since that she is grown healthy and strong, having no Symptom of her former Complaint.

Whether any future Experiments, with these Medicines, and the Application of the *Cataputia* will depress my present rising Hope, of having found out something that may be beneficial in this lamentable Disease, I know is uncertain ; because, I am well aware, that a single Case, succeeding according to our Wishes, is not sufficient for our hastily drawing a Conclusion to a general Method of Cure ; as Medicines require a frequent and repeated Course of Trials to accurately discover their Effects.— And, as one Man's private Practice does not always supply him with a sufficient Number of proper Subjects to duly make Trial of any new-invented Remedy, I think, 'tis a Duty incumbent upon him, to communicate it to others, who may have Opportunities of further improving or exploding such Remedies, both for the Good of his Fellow-Creatures in general, and the Honour of the Healing Art in particular.

I had the Misfortune of having almost all my Plants of the *Cataputia* destroy'd, or I would have sent up some of the *Unguent*,

as

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as call it, for your Use, if you should think proper to make any Trial of it. — I am endeavouring to cultivate the little Spot on which the remaining few Roots grow, for their further Encrease.

I beg Leave to subscribe myself, worthy Sir, with great Respect,

Your most obedient,

Halesworth,
June 1, 1753.

And most obliged,

humble Servant,

W. Norford.

The E N D.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Author has some other remarkable Cases, with which he intended to have further illustrated the preceding Discourse; but some Circumstances having occur'd since those Cases happen'd, he thinks it necessary, for the present, to defer their Publication: Whenever he thinks proper to publish them, they will be printed so as to be tack'd to the foregoing Essay.

N. B. No Relapses have happen'd after the Operation; nor any Circumstances which may make the Author alter his Opinion in regard to what he has advanced concerning Extirpation.

Whenever those Cases are published, some Remarks will be made on the Use of the *Phytolacca* in Cancers.



